

# Spiritus

A photograph of two students walking on a paved path on a university campus. On the left, a young Black woman with short dark hair is smiling and walking towards the camera. She is wearing a dark patterned sweater over a grey shirt and blue jeans. On the right, a young white man with short brown hair is smiling and pointing his right index finger upwards. He is wearing a bright green zip-up jacket over a dark shirt and light blue shorts. Both students are carrying backpacks. The background shows lush green trees and a clear sky, suggesting a sunny day. A black lamppost is visible between the two students.

Spring 2015 • University of Detroit Mercy magazine

The Promise of UDM

**GREAT**

Academics  
Values  
City  
Outcomes



## *A message from the president*

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As the deadline for the Fall 2014 issue of *Spiritus* approached last October, I was hoping we would be able to announce a historic consortium grant that was about to be awarded to UDM and three other local universities – Marygrove College, Wayne County Community College District and Wayne State University. Though the official announcement from Washington, D.C., came a few weeks later, the fact that UDM was the lead institution on a five-year \$21.2-million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) made quite a splash locally, regionally and nationally.

The grant, which we have called REBUILD Detroit, is designed to encourage and increase the number of underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students who pursue careers in biomedical research. Because only 10 awards were made out of a very competitive field in NIH's first round of *Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity (BUILD)* grants, the selection of University of Detroit Mercy and the consortium schools for this award immediately raises the distinctive profiles of each of our Detroit-based institutions. In addition to our faculty and staff preparing more young men and women for the biomedical sciences, it is our aspiration to play a significant role in turning Detroit into a major biomedical research and entrepreneurial center.

An article about the grant is on Page 5 of this issue, but please also visit the UDM website ([udmercy.edu/x/nih](http://udmercy.edu/x/nih)) to read several articles that have been written over the last six months in *The Detroit News*, the *Detroit Free Press* and *Crain's Detroit Business*.

The NIH award and our intensified marketing and publicity initiatives since last August are examples of tactics we are using to respond to two of University of Detroit Mercy's five strategic goals, namely, enrolling more academically talented students and heightening the distinction of the University.

Throughout this academic year, we have been aggressively promoting UDM's academic programs and its unique quality. Four of those UDM characteristics have been distilled into our four new branding messages: Great Academics, Great Jesuit and Mercy Values, Great American City and Great Outcomes. The messages are easy to remember and also easy to use with prospective students who are considering UDM for their college experience. We have used the messages in local television and radio interviews, print advertisements, social media and in two 30-second TV commercials, which you can find at [udmercy.edu/mpa](http://udmercy.edu/mpa); they were also aired on metro Detroit cable, network TV programs, and Xfinity.net in the Detroit and Grand Rapids markets prior to each Visit Day event.



The broader marketing efforts with the new messaging have produced increased attendance at each of the three Visit Days this fall and winter. Additionally, the response to our new UDM Catholic Education University Grant announced last fall, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Detroit Schools, has generated more than 200 additional applications, a 62% increase, from Catholic high school graduates compared with the prior years' number of applicants. The grant, which is being publicized throughout the Archdiocese's schools and in articles in *The Michigan Catholic*, will provide \$5,000 annually for four years to qualified graduating seniors who have attended Catholic schools from first grade through high school and who enroll at UDM. Students who have graduated from a Catholic high school only and enroll at UDM will receive a \$2,500 annual Catholic Education University Grant for four years. Both grants are available to first-time, full-time students entering UDM in fall term 2015. You can find more information about the new grant on the Scholarships page of the UDM website ([udmercy.edu/x/catholicgrant](http://udmercy.edu/x/catholicgrant)).

During the spring and summer, I encourage you to visit our three campuses to see some of the many renovations that have been completed over the past year. We have much more to do but I think you will be impressed with what you see. Enjoy this edition of *Spiritus* and thank you for your continued support of the University.

*Antoine M. Garibaldi*

Antoine M. Garibaldi, Ph.D.  
President

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## Stay connected with your alma mater:

Let us know of your recent promotions, activities and honors, and help us keep our records current when you move or change your name. Post your Class Note to the UDM Online Community.

- Visit [community.udmercy.edu](http://community.udmercy.edu).

- Or send your name, class year, degree, address, the details of your class note and, if possible, a high-resolution color photo of yourself to:

Alumni Relations, University of Detroit Mercy,  
4001 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, MI 48221-3038  
or email [udmgrad@udmercy.edu](mailto:udmgrad@udmercy.edu).

## In Memoriam Updates

Please send notices of alumni deaths to  
Alumni Relations, University of Detroit Mercy,  
4001 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, MI 48221-3038  
or email [udmgrad@udmercy.edu](mailto:udmgrad@udmercy.edu).

Class Notes and In Memoriam are also posted and updated regularly on the UDM Online Community. *Spiritus* can be found online by visiting [udmercy.edu/spiritus](http://udmercy.edu/spiritus). For more information, call the Alumni Relations office: 888-UDM-GRAD (836-4723).

Please visit UDM on the web: [udmercy.edu](http://udmercy.edu)

## UDM Mission Statement

University of Detroit Mercy, a Catholic University in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions, exists to provide excellent student-centered undergraduate and graduate education in an urban context. A UDM education seeks to integrate the intellectual, spiritual, ethical and social development of students.

## Masses, Chapels and Other Services

All chapels are open for quiet reflection and personal meditation during school hours. People of all faiths are most welcome at the Catholic Masses listed below on all campuses.

### Sunday Masses

12:10 p.m., St. Ignatius Chapel, C&F Bldg. (year-round)

9 p.m., St. Ignatius Chapel, C&F Bldg. (Terms I & II)

### Weekday Masses

Noon, St. Ignatius Chapel, C&F Bldg. (year-round)

12:15 p.m. & 1:15 p.m., Meditation room,  
School of Dentistry (First Friday of each month)

4:30 p.m., St. Ignatius Chapel, C&F Bldg.  
(Terms I & II, Monday - Friday)

10 p.m., Young Martyrs Chapel, Shiple Residence Hall  
(Terms I & II, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)

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*Spirit of UDM*  
ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS  
2015

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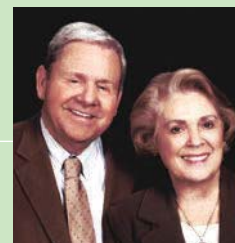
Nancy Beckman '75

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Dennis '61 and Carolyn '61 Flynn





## Sean Moran named to UDM Board of Trustees

University of Detroit Mercy's Board of Trustees welcomes new member Sean P. Moran '93 of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC. Moran is senior vice president, financial advisor and senior investment management consultant at Morgan Stanley, where he

has worked for 21 years.

Moran, who has a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance, has built his success on his personal commitment to assisting clients. In his position, he organizes and manages his clients' financial affairs to match their goals and needs.

In addition to UDM, Moran is active with many local philanthropic institutions, including Racquet Up Detroit, an after-school educational and athletic program he co-founded that serves Detroit youth. He is on the boards of The Parade Company, the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame, the Academy of the Sacred Heart and The Detroit Athletic Club Foundation. Moran resides in Bloomfield Hills with his wife and four children.

## Commencements set for May 8 and 9

University of Detroit Mercy will graduate more than 1,500 students at three commencement ceremonies in May.

The undergraduate and graduate commencement is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 9. U.S. Court of Appeals Judge and civil rights leader Damon J. Keith will receive an honorary degree. In nearly 50 years on the bench, Keith has made decisions that have prohibited warrantless wiretapping, desegregated public schools and broken color lines at corporations. He is the recipient of many awards, including the prestigious Spingarn Medal from the NAACP.

Commencement for the School of Dentistry will be at 9:30 a.m. Friday, May 8. The keynote speaker will be Jack Dillenberg, D.D.S., M.P.H., the inaugural dean of AT Still University's Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health. Dillenberg is a recognized local, state and national expert in public health leadership, oral health issues and training of community health workers.

The School of Law's commencement is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8. U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez will give the keynote address. Sworn in on July 23, 2013, Perez has committed his office to improving opportunity for all and putting a middle-class life within reach of those willing to work for it. His goals include ensuring a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, connecting ready-to-work Americans with jobs through skills programs, promoting gender equality in the workplace and ensuring veterans and those with disabilities have access to employment opportunities.

All ceremonies will be in Calihan Hall on the McNichols Campus and are open to alumni, friends and family. To view the ceremony online, go to [udmercy.edu](http://udmercy.edu) and click on the Commencement 2015 Live link.



## Deborah Stieffel named VP for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs

University of Detroit Mercy President Antoine M. Garibaldi named Deborah Stieffel vice president for Enrollment Management and Stu-

dent Affairs, effective in February. She has served in the position as interim vice president since 2013.

In this executive position, Stieffel serves as the University's senior enrollment and student affairs officer and has primary responsibility for leadership, management, policy development and administrative oversight for the Student Affairs and Enrollment Management division. She is also a member of the UDM President's Council.

Stieffel brings 30 years of experience in recruitment, admissions, financial aid, retention and enrollment management. She came to UDM after six years in the same capacity at Pennsylvania's Susquehanna University. Prior to that, from 1985 to 2007, she held positions of progressive responsibility in enrollment management at Loyola University New Orleans, advancing to the position of dean of Admissions and Enrollment Management, which she held for eight years.

At Susquehanna University, she and her staff increased both the number of applications and the number of first-time students. Additionally, she more than doubled the diversity of first-time students. She also implemented several communication strategies to increase conversion yields for prospects, applicants and admits.

During her tenure at Loyola University New Orleans, she was instrumental in recruiting the university's largest incoming class prior to the impact of Hurricane Katrina. More than 78 percent of the 950 first-time students and over 92 percent of undergraduates returned to Loyola New Orleans in the spring, following the 2005 fall semester closure of the university. Throughout her career, she has been effective in engaging faculty, staff, alumni, and student and parent volunteers to achieve admissions, enrollment and retention goals.

During her career she has been actively involved in the Conference of Jesuit Enrollment Managers, the Conference of Jesuit Admissions Directors and the National Catholic College Admissions Association. She was the president-elect of the National Catholic College Admissions Association for 2006-07. Additionally, she has been a director and faculty member for MECA (Management Experience in College Admission) and the Chief Enrollment Officers Forum for the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) as well as a College Board Institutional Representative.

Stieffel earned a Bachelor of Liberal Studies and a Master of Science in Guidance and Counseling from Loyola University New Orleans, and took postgraduate coursework in Financial Management for Higher Education from University of New Orleans.



Leaders of the four REBUILD Detroit partner institutions, from left: UDM President Antoine M. Garibaldi, WSU President M. Roy Wilson, Marygrove President David J. Fike and WCCCD Vice Chancellor George Swan III, at the project announcement on UDM's McNichols Campus, Oct. 22.

## Major NIH grant to attract students to biomedical research

In October 2014, the National Institutes of Health awarded a \$21.2 million grant to a consortium of four schools, led by University of Detroit Mercy, to increase diversity in the biomedical research field.

With the five-year grant, the consortium, which includes Marygrove College, Wayne County Community College District and Wayne State University, will implement a program to attract more students from underrepresented and economically disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue careers in biomedical research.

The project is called Research Enhancement for Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity, or REBUILD Detroit. The four partner institutions will redesign their curriculum with an emphasis on peer mentoring, early introduction to laboratory research and dedicated faculty advising. Prospective students will attend a summer program after their high school graduation to prepare them for research methodology courses in the program's first year of study. UDM is currently recruiting students for the 2015 summer program.

"The NIH-funded REBUILD Detroit consortium will contribute significantly to the achievement of the nation's goal of annually producing 34 percent more undergraduate students with biomedical degrees over the next 10 years," said UDM President Antoine M. Garibaldi. "Our four institutions are uniquely qualified to address this major challenge because of our biomedical programs and the expertise of our faculty in those fields."

UDM will lead the consortium and manage the grant; its faculty will provide research opportunities and mentorship

for program undergraduates. Marygrove and WCCCD will work to expand the pool of students in the program, implementing student support programs for coursework necessary to enter research careers. Wayne State will serve as the research partner, mentoring faculty from the other institutions in research skills and training, and providing students with skills development in grant applications, graduate school preparedness and networking.

Among REBUILD Detroit's goals is to have at least 75 percent of its students graduate with baccalaureate degrees in biomedical science-related fields and have half of those graduates move into biomedical research doctoral programs. Ultimately, the program seeks to establish Detroit as a center for biomedical research training.

Studies show minority and economically disadvantaged students enter early biomedical research training in numbers that reflect the general population, but are less likely to continue. This program will provide the training and mentoring to support students in their biomedical research studies leading to doctorate degrees.

Not only will students benefit from this program, research indicates diversity often leads to innovation, as different perspectives are crucial to solving complex problems.

The NIH grant has garnered strong media coverage, including articles in *The Detroit News*, *Crain's Detroit Business* and the *Detroit Free Press*, which can be seen at [rebuildetroit.org/media-links/](http://rebuildetroit.org/media-links/). For more information on the REBUILD Detroit Program at UDM, contact the Office of Admissions at 800-635-5020.

## Catholic school students respond to Catholic Education University Grant

Applications to UDM from Catholic high school students have increased 62 percent compared to the same date last year, possibly stemming from UDM's new Catholic Education University Grant.

In August, the University partnered with the Archdiocese of Detroit Schools to award a new Catholic Education University Grant of \$5,000 annually for four years to qualified graduating seniors who enroll at UDM and have attended Catholic schools from first grade through high school. Students who have attended and graduated from a Catholic high school and enroll at UDM will receive a \$2,500 annual Catholic Education University Grant for four years. The grant is available to first-time, full-time students entering UDM in fall term 2015.

For more information on the grant, contact the Office of Admissions at 800-635-5020.

## Mother Manning named to Michigan Women's Hall of Fame



Mother Mary Carmelita Manning, RSM, (1888-1962) was among 11 women and one man honored at the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Awards Dinner and Induction Cer-

emony in East Lansing in October 2014. Mother Manning was the foundress of the Detroit Province of the Sisters of Mercy in the 1940s. In that role, she oversaw the construction and operations of 25 Mercy hospitals (15 in Michigan), including the Michigan and Iowa Mercy Hospitals, now part of Trinity CHE, as well as the establishment of Mercy College, now a part of University of Detroit Mercy. She also built and opened Our Lady of Mercy High School, now Mercy High School.



## Kagey, Ulferts receive faculty awards

University of Detroit Mercy honored the academic commitment of two exceptional faculty members with the 2014 Faculty Recognition Awards in November.

Gregory W. Ulferts, professor of Information and Decision Sciences, College of Business Administration, received the 2014 Faculty Excellence Award, given annually to a UDM faculty member selected as “most outstanding” by his or her peers. This individual is considered an asset both to his or her School or College and to the University as a whole, and demonstrates excellence as a teacher and scholar.

Ulferts has been engaged in numerous professional activities in small business and strategic management. In the last 10 years, he has made more than 100 intellectual contributions, including 50 refereed articles and presentations. He has secured national and state grants and has been recognized by the Decision Sciences Institute for his contributions.

The 2014 Faculty Achievement Award was given to Jacob D. Kagey, assistant professor of Biology, College of Engineering & Science. This award is given annually to an individual, chosen by his or her faculty colleagues, who has demonstrated distinctive merit and achievement as a junior faculty member, with promise of becoming an outstanding faculty member.

In four years at UDM, Kagey has emerged as an exceptional faculty member who exemplifies excellence in teaching, research and service. He has helped guide the lives of his students as academic advisor for the seven-year dental program and faculty mentor for the Biology Club.



Jacob Kagey (left) and Gregory Ulferts



Signing the agreement are, from left, David Fike, Ph.D., of Marygrove College, Antoine M. Garibaldi, Ph.D., of UDM, Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, CSSF, of Madonna University and Rev. Msgr. Todd Lajiness of Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

## Presidents re-sign Consortium agreement

In November, the presidents of the four institutions that make up the Detroit Area Catholic Higher Education Consortium reaffirmed an agreement first signed in 1967 to develop programs that would make strong contributions to the community and the Archdiocese of Detroit. The new agreement reflects new norms and practices, and allows undergraduate students to take classes at other member schools.



Representatives of the AOD and UDM gather to confirm a professional development partnership. Pictured above, from left, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Pamela Zarkowski, AOD Schools Superintendent Brian Dougherty, President Antoine M. Garibaldi, College of Liberal Arts & Education Dean Mark Denham, UDM Education Program Chair Lorri J. MacDonald, AOD Schools Regional Associate Superintendent for the Central Region Karen White.

## Archdiocese of Detroit and UDM expand partnership

University of Detroit Mercy and Madonna University have partnered with the Archdiocese of Detroit (AOD) to provide professional development for educators and administrators who are part of AOD schools. UDM has worked with AOD schools for many years in placing its Education program students as fieldwork students, student teachers and administrative interns as well as providing workshops for AOD teachers.

Through the new, more formalized partnership, UDM's Education program will provide needs-based professional development programs. UDM offered initial sessions to the AOD in August 2014 at the McNichols Campus. In January, UDM began implementing a structured plan at two AOD schools and will include more schools throughout the year.

## Chinese business delegation visits

A delegation of more than 20 top Chinese CEOs and businessmen in the manufacturing industry met with University of Detroit Mercy's administration and deans from the Colleges of Liberal Arts & Education, Business Administration and Engineering & Science in October 2014. Discussion focused on how a UDM partnership can help bridge the gap between theory and application in an increasingly global economy.



Paul Hurley, a representative of the Conti family, presents the John Conti Award to Jermaine Jackson '99, center. At right is UDM Director of Athletics Robert C. Vowels, Jr.

## Former Horizon League Player of the Year receives John Conti Award

The University of Detroit Mercy Department of Athletics recognized alumnus and former Titan and professional basketball player Jermaine Jackson '99 with the 2014 prestigious John Conti Letterman of Distinction Award. A 2010 Detroit Titan Hall of Fame inductee and two-time All-Horizon League standout, Jackson earned four letters at UDM from 1995-99 and is 21st all-time in scoring with 1,341 career points. He is also fifth in University history with 504 assists and tenth in steals with 142.



## Titans add athletes to Hall of Fame

The Department of Athletics inducted the 2014 Hall of Fame class in early December adding many Titan greats.

Inducted were former men's basketball head coach Perry Watson, women's cross country and track standout Kim Hemstreet '03 '04, men's soccer's Jorge Ferreira '99, women's soccer's Mary (Parker) Latham '83, men's basketball's and former NBA player Lee Knorek and women's basketball's Lisa Blackburn '82, along with the 1972 NCAA National Championship men's fencing team.

"The Hall of Fame Class of 2014 is an incredible group of honorees and they represented the University with determination, dedication, class and character in their respective roles," Director of Athletics Robert C. Vowels, Jr., said. "Each established a legacy that cannot be equaled."

Members of the 1972 NCAA Championship fencing squad, Ferreira, Latham, Watson and members of the Blackburn family were on hand at the Hall of Fame ceremony held at the Student Fitness Center. They were then honored on the court the next day during halftime of the men's basketball game against nationally ranked Wichita State.

Hemstreet could not make the banquet and ceremony, but was honored during halftime of the men's basketball game against Wright State in January.

With the addition of the seven inductees in the Class of 2014, the Detroit Titans Hall of Fame, established in 1977, has 122 individuals and teams.

## UDM to host 2018 NCAA Tournament

University of Detroit Mercy along with Olympia Entertainment and the Detroit Sports Commission will host the NCAA first-and second-round games for the 2018 men's basketball tournament on March 16 and 18, at the new Red Wings arena planned in downtown Detroit.

## Student-athletes honored

In January, the Detroit Titans Athletic Director's Honor Roll recognized 257 student-athletes for attaining a minimum 3.0 GPA during the 2014 academic year. The list includes student-athletes from every varsity sport as well as spirit group members, including the pep band, dance and cheer squad.

## Students use school break to help others

During spring break (Feb. 28-March 7), 25 students and seven faculty and staff members traveled to five different U.S. locations to provide community service. The groups traveled to Salem, W. Va., to address rural poverty and environmental issues; Pittsburgh, to work on women and family issues; South Bend, Ind., to serve the incarcerated; Chicago, to serve the disabled, and Milwaukee, to work with immigrants. In addition, a group of colleagues worked in Detroit. During winter break (Dec. 18-22), a group also served the hungry and homeless in Cincinnati.

## Libraries receive DALNET grant

University of Detroit Mercy Libraries/ Instructional Design Studio has been awarded a Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET) grant of \$13,520 for the UDM Marine Historical Collection Negative Preservation project. The collection holds more than 17,000 negatives in need of preservation and digitizing.

Edward J. Dowling, S.J., donated the Marine Historical Collection to UDM in 1993, and it is considered one of the most complete private collections of information on the subject of Great Lakes marine history. Associate Dean of Technical Services and Library Systems Sara Martin will serve as the grant coordinator.



# Spirit of UDM

## ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### 2015

University of Detroit Mercy has chosen eight alumni, leaders in their fields and in the community, to receive the 2015 Spirit of UDM: Alumni Achievement Award.

These individuals represent all of the schools and colleges, and exemplify the type of graduates UDM strives to achieve through its education, which integrates the intellectual, spiritual, ethical and social development of each student.

The Spirit of UDM: Alumni Achievement Award was established to recognize distinguished graduates who have excelled in their chosen professions, demonstrated outstanding leadership in their work, and devoted themselves in service to the larger community.

This is the second year the University has named Spirit of UDM honorees; they join ranks with the outstanding alumni chosen in 2014. To learn more about the honorees and view the April 17 awards program video and photos, visit [community.udmercy.edu/awards/achievement](http://community.udmercy.edu/awards/achievement).

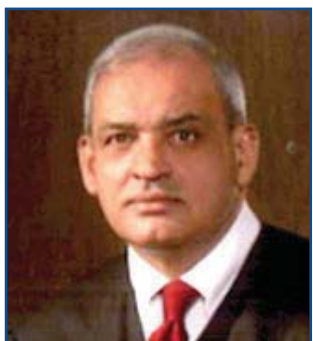


### **Brian D. Cloyd '73, '76**

**Vice President, Global Corporate Relations, Steelcase Inc.**

**College of Liberal Arts & Education**

Over his 36 years with Steelcase Inc., the Grand Rapids-based global leader in the office furniture industry, Cloyd has distinguished himself as a corporate leader and champion of positive personal, community and corporate relations. He coordinates company efforts in diversity, government relations and public policy, corporate relations, community giving and volunteer programs.



### **The Honorable Anthony J. Fiorella, Jr. '61, '66**

**Retired Housing Court Judge, Civil Court, City of New York**

**School of Law**

Fiorella is respected for his notable decisions, which have been widely published, and for being an advocate for the establishment and maintenance of housing standards. He was chosen for the Alumni Achievement Award for his integrity, fairness and commitment to Jesuit education.





## **John C. '79 and Nancy G. '83 Kennedy**

**President and CEO, Autocam Medical (John)**

**Quality Analyst, Autocam Corporation (Nancy)**

**College of Business Administration**

After purchasing Autocam Corp. in 1988, the Kennedys worked together to build it into an international corporation with facilities on four continents, 2,000 employees and more than \$300 million in sales. They sold it in 2014. The Kennedys are leaders in the Grand Rapids-area community and philanthropists who support education at all levels.

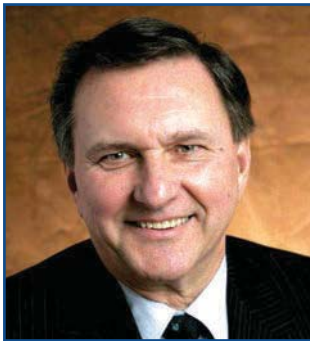


## **Jeanette Wrona Klemczak '65**

**Retired Chief Nurse Executive, State of Michigan**

**College of Health Professions**

An untiring advocate for improved healthcare delivery and the nursing profession, Klemczak was Michigan's first Chief Nurse Executive and served as special advisor to Gov. Jennifer Granholm. She is director of Healthcare Talent for the Workforce Development Agency for Michigan, an assistant professor of Nursing at Michigan State University and principal of Klemczak Consultation, providing healthcare workforce consulting.



## **Dr. Walter Knysz, Jr., D.D.S. '75**

**Chairman of the Board, UnifiedSmiles**

**School of Dentistry**

Knysz combined his knowledge of dentistry with his business acumen to develop MIDA Dental Plans, Great Expressions Dental Centers and UnifiedSmiles, all successful dental services businesses that expanded into several states. He is a strong supporter of Catholic education, serving on the boards of several universities and other organizations.



## **Dr. Derrick M. Kuzak '73, '74, '76**

**Retired Group VP, Global Product Development,**

**Ford Motor Company**

**College of Engineering & Science**

In 2012, Kuzak retired after 33 years with Ford Motor Co. as group vice president of Global Product Development, leading a worldwide team of 18,000 designers, engineers and technicians. Upon Kuzak's retirement, Ford Chairman Bill Ford honored him for his "legacy of leadership, integrity and commitment to excellence that will benefit us for years to come."



## **Steven M. Pagnotta '74, '76**

**President & CEO, Bradford Companies**

**School of Architecture**

A Chicago-based retail developer, Pagnotta is the founder of Bradford Real Estate, one of Chicago's most successful firms dedicated to large-scale retail projects. He serves on the Board of Advisors to the UDM School of Architecture and is a strong supporter of education and other philanthropic interests.



Architecture students received input on their designs for a children's cancer drop-in center from Gesu School students during a recent collaboration between the schools.

## School of Architecture News

- The School of Architecture received an eight-year accreditation from the National Architecture Accrediting Board (NAAB), the new maximum term length.
- In November, the School of Architecture announced the new Master's in Community Development (MCD)/W.K. Kellogg Fellowship Program, which began in January. This fellowship is part of a \$750,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to support MCD fellowships and internships, as well as student scholarships.
- It has been an exceptional year of recognition for female students and alumni of the School of Architecture. The following women were acknowledged for their work and contributions to the profession. These achievements reflect the SOA's standard of excellence:
  - ♦ Sandra Laux '85, '86, '02 was inducted into the American Institute of Architects' College of Fellows.
  - ♦ Current student Samantha Szeszulski received a 2015 Women in Architecture Emerging Professional Inspiration Award for Community Outreach
  - ♦ Larissa Carr '14, Alexandra Mueller '00, Shaema Al Saade '14 and Carrie Kulikowski '14, all MCD graduates, received the inaugural MCD/W.K. Kellogg Fellowships.
  - ♦ Lauren Hood '03, '12, a graduate of the MCD program, started Deep Dive Detroit, creating a safe space for uncomfortable conversations between disparate groups.
  - ♦ Corissa Leveille '12 was named a 2014 Challenge Detroit Fellow.
  - ♦ Elizabeth Grabowski '14 was named a 2015 Challenge Detroit Fellow.
  - ♦ Dima Daimi '11 was named AIA Detroit Associate of the Year and elected to AIA MI Board of Directors.

- ♦ Rebecca Willis '12 was recognized in a Huffington Post article as one of "8 Women Who Will Change Everything You Thought About Detroit" for her work with social entrepreneurship initiative Bleeding Heart Design.
- ♦ Naomi Beasley '13 was featured in *Model D* for her accomplishments and work organizing pop-up stores on East Jefferson in Detroit.
- ♦ Ceara O'Leary, a Rose Fellow in the Detroit Collaborative Design Center, was recognized nationally in *Architizer* as one of "9 Women Who Are Rocking Public Interest Design."
- ♦ Janice Suchan '94, principal at Stantec, received the AIA Detroit Young Architect of the Year Award, and was a recipient of *Crain's Detroit Business* "40 Under 40" designation recognizing young leaders in several fields.
- ♦ Meghan Tonjes '08, a Digital Media Studies graduate and YouTube artist, appeared on the "Ellen DeGeneres Show."
- The School of Architecture's Detroit Collaborative Design Center is one of only six winners globally in the fourth annual SEED Awards for Excellence in Public Interest Design, sponsored by Design Corps and the Social Economic Environmental Design (SEED) Network. The awards recognize design projects with exceptional social, economic and environmental impact and highlight efforts at creating sustainable projects and positive change in the world. See the winning projects on [DesignCorps.org](http://DesignCorps.org).  
*Find more about these stories and the School of Architecture at [architecture.udmercy.edu](http://architecture.udmercy.edu).*

## College of Business Administration News

- Beginning Fall term, evening MBA courses will be offered at both the McNichols and Riverfront campuses. "By offering MBA courses at the Law School location, we'll be providing greater convenience for those who work in the central business district," said CBA Dean Joseph Eisenhower. "This is a return to the practice that many of our alumni will remember from years ago, when the Evening Division was downtown." In addition to their separate degree programs, the two schools jointly offer a J.D./MBA degree, which will now be available at a single location. For more information, contact Associate Professor & Director of Graduate Business Programs Omid Sabbaghi at [omid.sabbaghi@udmercy.edu](mailto:omid.sabbaghi@udmercy.edu).
- The College held Alumni Week 2015, from March 16-20, with its keynote event on Tuesday, March 17. The presentation and panel featured Chief





**Alumni Week keynote speakers Dominic Paluzzi '04, '07 and Meredith Phillips '94, '97.**

Information Privacy & Security Officer at Henry Ford Health System Meredith Phillips '94, '97 and McDonald Hopkins attorney Dominic Paluzzi '04, '07 speaking on the topic, "Cybersecurity: Crimes & Consequences."

- The College promoted its MBA and graduate programs with a marketing campaign in March. A new television commercial highlighting its MBA program aired on cable TV. The spot included testimonials from MBA alumni Christopher HooSang '01 and Jennifer Kennedy '99. Look for additional MBA TV commercials with Trevor Pawl '11, Samuel Umachi '09, '10 and Anai Orozco-Hernandez '13, '14.
- Alumnus John Kyees '74, former CFO of Urban Outfitters and board member of Vera Bradley, spoke to students in the Emerging Leaders Program in October, as part of the College of Business Administration's Leadership Slam series. Alumnus Michael Carter '72, '78, managing partner of Pinnacle Construction Partners, LLC, talked to the group in February. The Leadership Slam event provides a discussion among experienced, professional leaders and UDM students, focusing on a range of topics from global leadership to servant leadership.

*Find more about these stories and the College of Business Administration at [business.udmercy.edu](http://business.udmercy.edu).*

## School of Dentistry News

- School of Dentistry alumni are invited to a day of continuing education and networking at Alumni Day on May 1 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth, Mich. In addition to a presentation titled, "Generational Diversity – Bridging the Gap" by Lisa Philp, president of Transitions Group North America, there will be a School of Dentistry update and a cocktail reception and a reunion dinner for classes ending in 0 or 5. To register, visit [dental.udmercy.edu/alumniday](http://dental.udmercy.edu/alumniday) or contact Debra Huff at 313-494-6626.

- Many more children in Detroit have a lot to smile about after the 14th annual Give Kids A Smile day in February. With the help of dentists, dental hygienists, faculty, staff and students, the School of Dentistry provided free oral health care services to children from low-income families in the Detroit area. Fourth-year dental students and supervising faculty provided 42 cleanings, 39 fluoride treatments, 94 sealants, 24 restorative procedures and five extractions.



**School of Dentistry students Chelsea Meyers and Marcell Orow helped provide free dental care to young people at Give Kids a Smile day in February.**

- TeamSmile, a mobile dental clinic that partners with professional sports teams to serve areas without adequate oral health care, partnered with the School of Dentistry and Clinic and the Detroit Lions to provide free oral health care to students at Loving Elementary School in November 2014. TeamSmile had 147 dental volunteers, 70 of whom came from the School of Dentistry, and helped provide 211 sealants, 145 fillings, 34 extractions, four crowns and two pulpotomies. Together, volunteers delivered almost \$125,000 of free dental care to 192 children. The program received a 2015 E. "Bud" Tarrson Dental School Student Community Leadership award from the American Dental Association. The award recognizes excellence in dental school student volunteer programs.
  - The UDM School of Dentistry was highlighted in the WDIV Local 4 segment, "Black History Month: In her father's footsteps," telling the story of a two-generation family dental practice. Robert Fuller, D.D.S. '55, one the first African Americans to study at the University of Detroit Dental School, opened a Detroit clinic and practiced through his retirement in 2001, passing the business to his daughter, Jennifer Fuller, D.D.S. Check out the video at [clickondetroit.com/news/black-history-month-in-her-fathers-footsteps/31519294](http://clickondetroit.com/news/black-history-month-in-her-fathers-footsteps/31519294)
- Find more about these stories and the School of Dentistry at [dental.udmercy.edu](http://dental.udmercy.edu).*



The CES named six people Alumni All Stars at its annual Slide Rule Dinner in March. They are, from left, Daniel Hegner '04, '10; Joseph LaVere '05; Nicole Najor '05; Pasquale Presti '93; Thomas Sanday '12 and James Held '02, '12.

## College of Engineering & Science News

- The College held its 83rd annual Slide Rule Dinner and Dance on March 14. The Slide Rule event is the annual ceremony for all Engineering & Science alumni, students, faculty and staff. This year's awards ceremony honored James Held '02, '12; Thomas Sanday '12; Pasquale Presti '93; Nicole Najor '05; Daniel Hegner '04, '10, and Joseph LaVere '05. In addition, Slide Rule recognized the retirement of former E & S Dean Leo Hanifin '69, '72 '76 and gave a special honor to the Suturuk Foundation for its ongoing generous support.
- More than 150 alumni and friends who work for or are retired from Ford Motor Co. gathered in February to celebrate the academic success of their co-workers in the Master of Product Development program. Following the degree ceremony, guests moved to Calihan Hall to watch the Titans beat Valparaiso.
- A team of engineering students competed in the Shell Oil Co. Eco-marathon competition in Detroit, April 10-12. The goal of the Eco-marathon is to achieve the highest fuel-efficiency in hand-built, custom-designed vehicles that are then driven on the streets of Detroit.
- Planning is under way for the College's Center for Automotive Systems Engineering Education (CASEE). The project includes new physical equipment and collaborative efforts with industry through joint projects, cooperative education and resource sharing. The facility will replace the current auto lab.
- Approximately 1,000 Detroit area high school students are expected to attend the 25th Annual Technology Discovery Day Event on Friday, April 17. The event is an opportunity for high school students to learn about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through demonstrations and competitions.

Find more about these stories and the College of Engineering & Science at [eng-sci.udmercy.edu](http://eng-sci.udmercy.edu).

## College of Health Professions News

- UDM's McAuley School of Nursing will hold a clinical nurse leader (CNL) conference from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on May 28 on the McNichols Campus. The event's theme is "Implementing the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Role: A conference to address the why and the how." Speakers include nurse executives and leaders from the Veterans Health Administration Office of Nursing Services, Mercy Health Saint Mary's and Trinity Home Health Services. The program has support of the Michigan Organization of Nurse Executives (MONE). Nurse executives and leaders as well as people interested in the CNL role are invited. For more information, contact Suzanne Erwin at 313-993-1923 or [erwinsm@udmercy.edu](mailto:erwinsm@udmercy.edu).
- The baccalaureate degree Health Information Management (HIM) Program is in candidacy status, the first step toward accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM).
- The College celebrated Health Information Professionals (HIP) Week, March 22-28, with the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). During HIP Week, health information professionals engaged in focused activities in their organizations and the community to raise awareness of the work they perform.
- Associate Professor of Health Services Administration Zigmond Kozicki presented his collaborative research, "The Need for Adoption of International Standards for Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities in Monitoring Waterborne Pathogens," at the 14th World Congress on Public Health in Kolkata, India, in February.
- Professor of Nursing Carla Groh will receive the Education and Research Award, and Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing Carmen Stokes '00 will receive the Education and Research Runner-up Award at the Nightingale Awards for Nursing Excellence annual ceremony, May 7.



Find more about these stories and the College of Health Professions at [healthprofessions.udmercy.edu](http://healthprofessions.udmercy.edu).

## School of Law News

- About 300 people gathered in early April to raise funds for Public Interest Fellowships at the 12th annual Voice for Justice Auction, hosted by the Student Bar Association and the Justice Fellowship Committee. This year's auction included more than 200 items, including gift certificates, gift baskets, sports memorabilia, electronics, event tickets and events hosted by the faculty.



- The new Solo and Small Firm Incubator Program (SSFIP) was featured on the State Bar of Michigan's Stories of Service website, michbar.org. The SSFIP is praised as an innovative model for teaching recent graduates how to grow and sustain a solo practice while also meeting the legal needs of low-income clients through pro bono service. The new program houses four recent graduates. Two of them are partners in an immigration law practice, one is developing a criminal law practice and the other is creating a family law/mediation practice. In addition, The State Bar Foundation awarded the School of Law a \$10,000 grant to expand the incubator to include services to senior citizens in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. Through this expansion, the incubator attorneys will begin providing free services to seniors, including educating them on their legal rights, self-help assistance with legal matters and referrals.
- In November, distinguished School of Law alumni were sworn in to serve as members of the judiciary and Legislature. Hon. Brian K. Zahra '87 was re-elected to the Michigan Supreme Court and Hon. Michael J. Talbot '71 was appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court to be Chief Judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals. Hon. Christopher Murray '90 was re-elected to the First District of the Michigan Court of Appeals. Judge Murray is currently a member of the University of Detroit Mercy Inns of Court and is president of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Inns of Court.



**McElroy Lecture Series on Law and Religion**

- The School of Law presented its annual McElroy Lecture Series on Law and Religion, March 4. This year's lecturer was Nelson Tebbe of Brooklyn and Cornell law schools. Tebbe's topic was "Religion and Social Coherentism: A Progressive Theory of Religious Freedom."
- The Law Clinic was recognized by the Ss. Peter and Paul Jesuit Church for volunteering to assist with the Church's Warming Center programs. Approximately 25 volunteers meet monthly in the church to take part in the program, which includes work from pro-bono attorneys, first-year law students and other agencies. They provide legal advice on such matters as ticket violations, debt collections, divorce, custody and disability benefits.

*Find more about these stories and the School of Law at [lawschool.udmercy.edu](http://lawschool.udmercy.edu).*



**From left, CLAE Dean Mark Denham, alumni presenters Gerald Smith '74 and Bill Pringle '12, and Instructor of History Daniel Kroupa celebrated Alumni Week in the Jane & Walter O. Briggs Building.**

## College of Liberal Arts & Education News

- The College held its annual Alumni Week, March 16-20 with presentations by guest lecturers. Alumni who spoke in CLAE classes included Mort Meisner '75 of Mort Meisner Associates, Lanetia Norris '88 of SHAR Inc., Bill Pringle '12 and Bob Sadler '88 of the Detroit Historical Society, Greg Russell '78 of WMYD-TV 20, Nicole Schumack Marcot '07 of Westside Christian Academy, Nick Sinacori '72 of the Village of Fairview Historical Society, Gerald Smith '74 of Comcast and Al Ward '76 of Broadside Press.
- The College has been recognized by online blog Best Psychology Degrees as one of the 30 Great Small Colleges for a Counseling Degree (Bachelor's) for its Addiction Studies program.
- The eighth annual Cushing Distinguished Lecture was presented by Emerson Powery, professor of Biblical Studies at Messiah College, on March 26. This event is a part of the Ralph and Barbara Cushing Distinguished Lecture Series in Religious Studies.
- Student-hosted and produced CST Radio has rebranded itself UDM Radio.
- During the 2014 fall term, the College hosted a variety of presentations and speakers covering a range of topics, including author Robert Lassalle-Klein; Chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives Pat Conroy, S.J.; Associate Professor of Sociology & Criminology at Barry University Laura Finley; retired NFL player Wallace "Wally" Triplett III; and author Rev. Joe Mulligan, S.J.
- The 15th annual Ethics Bowl was held in October with the winning team, "I Think, Therefore I Win," representing the University at the regional Ethics Bowl competition at Harper College in Chicago.

*Find more about these stories and the College of Liberal Arts & Education at [liberalarts.udmercy.edu](http://liberalarts.udmercy.edu).*





# The Promise of UDM

## GREAT

### Academics Values City Outcomes

Laurie Ann Britt-Smith, Liz Cezat  
and Amy Skimin, contributing writers

### "We want great things for you."

That phrase sums up everything we do at University of Detroit Mercy.

For more than a decade, it has been the school tagline, succinctly describing what we wish for our students and alumni. It's a promise that UDM faculty, staff and administrators will make every effort to help students achieve their academic dreams and goals. It's what we hope you felt while attending UDM and still feel about your alma mater. It's what we hope you tell others when they ask about your experience here.

Last year, the University articulated specific ways it provides opportunities for our students to do great things. We broke it down to four key characteristics of the UDM educational experience: Great Academ-

ics, Great Values – in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions, Great American City and Great Outcomes.

These characteristics reflect how a UDM education – both in and out of the classroom – develops students into well-rounded individuals. The experiences students have at UDM prepare them for fulfilling careers and give them the tools they need to make a difference in the world. They become accomplished graduates who lead and serve in their professions and their community.

The following pages illustrate several examples that reflect how our students experience a great education at University of Detroit Mercy – one that sets it apart from those of other universities.

Share these great things with others as you tell your great UDM story.



# GREAT [Academics]

Since 1877, University of Detroit Mercy has committed itself to providing students with an exceptional academic experience, preparing them to face the future as engaged, ethical and thoughtful individuals.

Our professional programs are accredited, ranked nationally and well respected locally. They are on the leading edge of programs across the country, changing to suit the needs of the industries they support.

At the heart of the students' academic experience, though, is the core curriculum, which transcends the boundaries of individual degree programs and exposes

these programs must be able to balance their core classes and the requirements of their majors. The new core will reflect the values and traditions of a Jesuit/Mercy education, but allows for flexibility and creativity in meeting the demands of the ever-evolving intellectual and academic standards placed on the University.

The new core is not based strictly on credit hours, but instead is built on a series of learning outcomes that identify what students should be able to accomplish when they complete a learning area. These outcomes are sorted into five large knowledge areas, which are further divided into smaller groupings reflective of traditional UDM subject areas in the liberal arts – writing, speech, math, literature, philosophy and religious studies, as well as a new element, statistics.



LEFT: Rev. Gilbert Sunghera, S.J., works with architecture students.  
ABOVE: Engineering Professor Kirstie Plantenberg, left, guides students through a project.

every student to mathematics, English, history, philosophy, religious studies and more.

"Over and over again, alumni report that the most influential class they took was not in their major, but in the core," said Mark Denham, dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Education, where most of the core classes are found. "They often reminisce about the course that seemingly had little to do with their major, yet it changed their lives or the way they viewed the world."

But that world is always changing, so we understand the curriculum must change as well, in order to best prepare students to meet the future. For years, a University committee has been developing, debating and revising the core curriculum. With faculty and board approval this summer, UDM will implement it Fall Term 2016.

Why did the process take so long? UDM is unique even among our peers in the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities and the Conference for Mercy Higher Education due to the number and type of professional programs we offer, each of which are under distinctive mandates by their own accreditation agencies. That means students in

Additionally, a sixth area consisting of integrated themes has been incorporated into core curriculum classes and can also be assimilated into courses within students' majors.

"This particular element can and should be welcomed as an opportunity to think creatively and form partnerships with those outside the traditional liberal arts departments," explained Laurie Ann Britt-Smith, associate professor of English and director of the Writing Center, who served on the committee that developed the core curriculum. "We want to challenge students to communicate and think well, while engaging in conversations about Catholic social teaching and our unique mission and identity in all academic and professional areas."

Nearly 200 courses have been accepted into the new core curriculum, giving students myriad choices when setting their schedules. Each class upholds the rigorous academic standards expected of a UDM education, while emphasizing the values on which the University was founded.

As we update our curriculum, we also realize the

*continued on next page*

importance of offering students the most up-to-date facilities and technology, allowing our faculty to provide rich content, delivered in the most effective ways.

"We are working hard to equip our classrooms with technology and furnishings that facilitate interaction and creativity, and provide faculty development opportunities to help professors expand their abilities to be effective," said Denham.

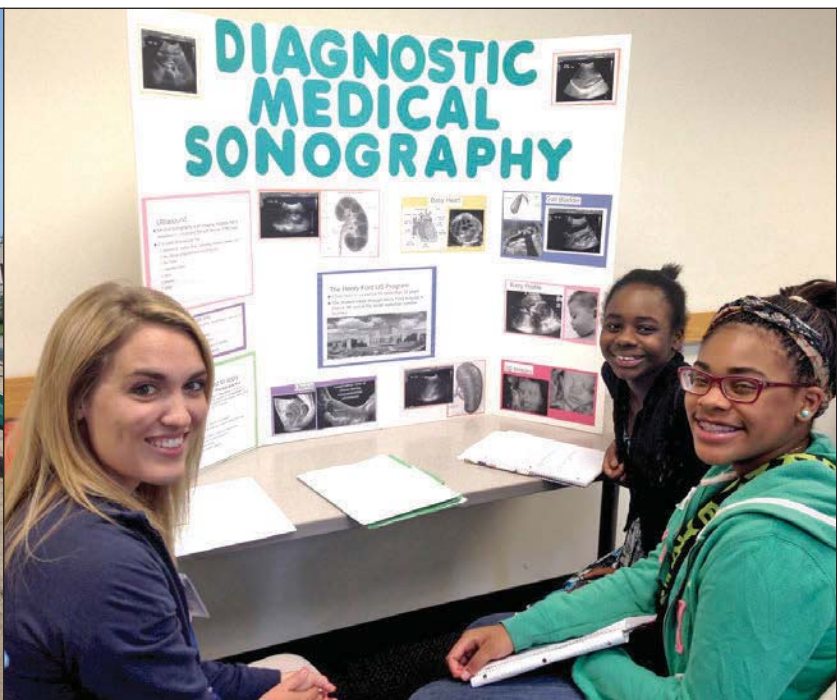
Overall, these changes prepare the University for the future, while remaining true to the standards that have made students choose us for 138 years.

"The faculty of UDM has designed courses that combine the best of what we were, are and can be," said Britt-Smith. "Our academic future promises excellence in content and mission."

Opportunities are available on and off campus. UDM's many outreach programs and clinics allow students, faculty and staff to assist nearly 22,000 people in the community each year. The University also partners with area agencies to help meet community needs and advance the education of youth. Two of our partners are educational organizations sponsored by the Jesuits and Sisters of Mercy: Gesu Elementary School and the Mercy Education Project. Both community partners share values with UDM that embrace quality education, service, justice and dignity.

## The Gesu Connection

The University has a longstanding relationship with Gesu Parish and School, located across the street from UDM's McNichols Campus. UDM offers a host of pro-



# GREAT [Values

At UDM, we're proud of our students' academic achievements. Yet, as a Catholic university in the Jesuit and Mercy traditions, we have a responsibility that reaches far beyond the walls of a classroom to nurture the ethical and social growth and development of each student.

This is a defining characteristic of the University – our ability to prepare students not only for careers, but also to live meaningful lives as leaders and active participants in their communities. Through service learning components ingrained in our academic programs, students don't simply learn how to make the world a better place, they actually do it.

grams ranging from academics to athletics for Gesu students in kindergarten through eighth grade and professional development for Gesu faculty.

"The University has been wonderful to the school over the years," said Gesu Pastor Robert Scullin, S.J.

The Department of Engineering mentors the fifth grade class during its annual egg drop contest, providing advice on how students can best cradle an egg so it doesn't crack upon impact. The School of Architecture invited students to comment on UDM student architecture projects. The Education Department holds specialized professional development for Gesu teachers, which provides credit toward their continuing education. The Psychology Department offers counseling to Gesu students and their families who request it.

Gesu School Principal Christa Laurin said UDM's outreach gives Gesu students a global view of what's available to them. "This partnership is expanding their



horizons," she said. "We are planting seeds for their higher education."

UDM students also assist Gesu School through individual efforts. Dane Adams, a student in the Physician's Assistant program, assisted Gesu in setting up "Better Men Outreach," a basketball-oriented program that provides a positive outlet for young men.

Many UDM students have tutored Gesu students in reading and math, and are rewarded with those light-bulb moments when the younger students finally understand challenging concepts.

Gesu students have many interactions with UDM's athletes: The students often serve as ball handlers for Titans men's basketball home games, UDM extends use of the women's softball field to the boys JV baseball team for games, the Titans women's lacrosse team held special

low-income and immigrant households find a way to be successful ... to achieve the American dream."

The students, half of whom attend MEP's after-school tutoring program, find they gain confidence. One student noted, "My parents ... told me that we are not college people, but I know now that I am."

The program features activities designed to help students build leadership skills and learn about college. They take field trips to area businesses, community colleges and other universities, and have fun swimming and roller-skating. The girls keep a journal, reflecting on the experience.

Starting the program at the middle school level is crucial said Amador. "We need to start the ideation that college can be achieved," she said. "The girls start making goals for middle school, high school and college."



**FAR LEFT and LEFT:** UDM's relationship with Gesu School includes community service and academics. **SECOND FROM LEFT and ABOVE:** The Mercy Education Project's summer program brings middle school girls to the McNichols Campus for educational activities.

sessions for fifth-grade students to help them stretch and strengthen their muscles.

Gesu Community Outreach Coordinator Anita Sevier attests to the tremendous influence UDM student athletes have as mentors to Gesu students. "They really listen to what these college kids say to them," Sevier said. "That connection helps them grow and flourish."

## MEP's Summer Program

For the past seven years, University of Detroit Mercy has hosted the Mercy Education Project's four-week summer enrichment program that brings 36 middle school girls from southwest Detroit to UDM's McNichols Campus. This opportunity gives the girls a sample of college life, complete with special classes created just for them.

"The Sisters of Mercy have a special concern for women, children and immigrants," said MEP Executive Director Amy Amador. "This is a way to help girls who come from

At the end of the four-week session, parents attend a formal program in which their daughters convey the impact of the program through skits or other presentations.

"We want parents to see them get excited about it," Amador said. "One of the fathers said, 'I'm almost crying. I'm so happy for her.'"

Approximately 200 girls have participated over the seven years. That's a major impact in sowing the seeds for a college education among first-generation students.

These partnerships are just two ways UDM lives its mission and values. Our clinics and community service demonstrate how our students, faculty and staff positively impact our community on a daily basis. Through these shared values, UDM continues the proud traditions and values of its sponsors and prepares its students to lead and serve in their communities.

# GREAT [American City

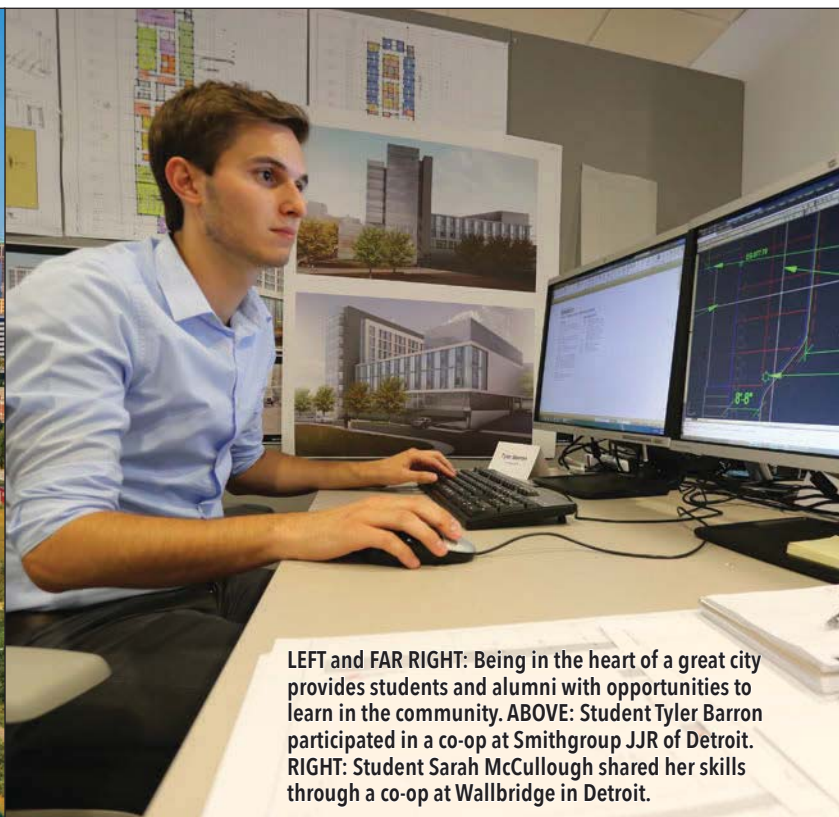
When Associate Professor of Communications and Director of the Honors Program Jason Roche applied for a faculty position at University of Detroit Mercy in 2009, he knew almost nothing about the city. It was the University's mission that caught his attention.

His first experience with Detroit was when he came for a job interview and Journalism Professor Tom Stanton offered to give him a tour of the city.

"The story gave me goosebumps. It made me want to be a part, if only a small part, of the University's mission in Detroit," Roche said.

Since that first visit, Roche has seen the tremendous renewal within the city. Detroit is on its way to reclaiming its former splendor. Its revitalization has garnered national attention, and once again, it is being recognized as a city rich with culture and entertainment, known for its music, theater, food, sports and world-class museums.

But the process of recovery and growth is ongoing, and provides ample opportunities for students looking to leave their mark on their community – opportunities, Roche points out, that would be unavailable in smaller



**LEFT and FAR RIGHT:** Being in the heart of a great city provides students and alumni with opportunities to learn in the community. **ABOVE:** Student Tyler Barron participated in a co-op at Smithgroup JJR of Detroit. **RIGHT:** Student Sarah McCullough shared her skills through a co-op at Wallbridge in Detroit.

Stanton showed Roche the majestic mansions of the Boston Edison district, some in their glory, some in disrepair. They drove through the city's Cultural Center and around Campus Martius, past the Renaissance Center and UDM's School of Law. They headed down Michigan Avenue, through Corktown – where Roche got a glimpse of the partially demolished Tiger Stadium. He would later produce an award-winning documentary about the field that remains on the site.

They toured southwest Detroit, "past the towering skeleton of the Michigan Central Station, through Mexican Town, and past mile after mile of urban decay. It was daunting," Roche recalled.

On their journey, Stanton told Roche how the University remained committed to the city of Detroit, even when urged to move out of it.

cities, such as East Lansing or Ann Arbor, with significantly less industry and less poverty, or in larger cities, like New York or Chicago, which lack a true sense of community and may make individuals feel anonymous and invisible.

It's a sentiment echoed by students.

"There are opportunities here you can't get anywhere else," explained Nicole West, a sophomore English/Secondary Education major from Redford.

These opportunities include close connections with major employers. Twenty Fortune 500 companies are located within the Detroit Metro area. As part of their studies, students participate in paid co-ops and internships that often turn into jobs after graduation. They also gain important professional and leadership experience while benefiting the community through UDM's many clinics and service projects.



# GREAT Outcomes

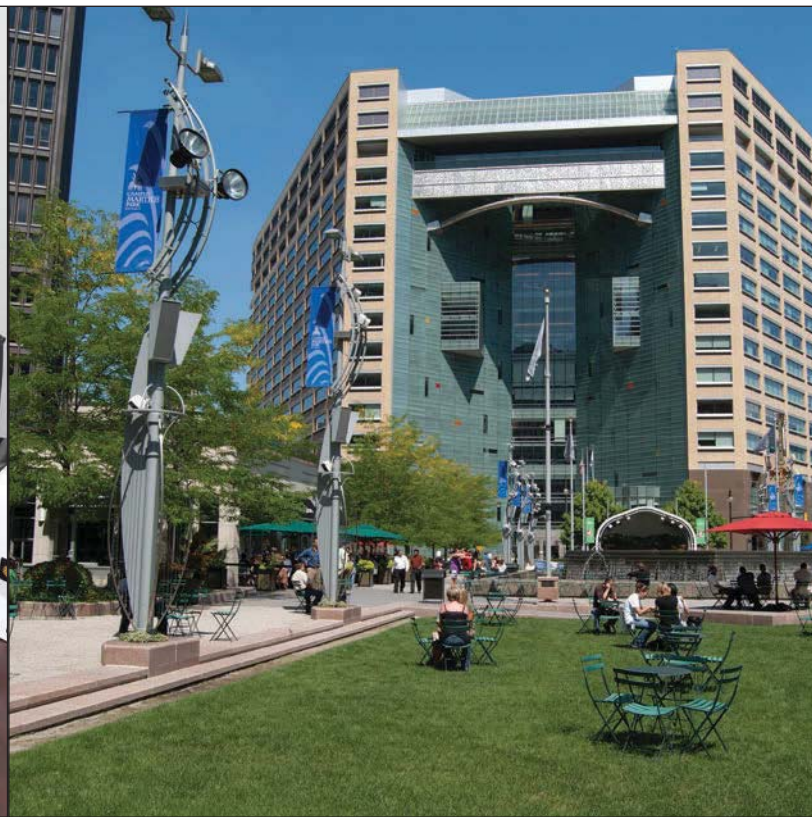
"This generation really has a vision to turn Detroit into something great," said senior English/Secondary Education major Mary Colombo, from Rochester Hills. "That's what opportunity is to us – it's the opportunity to make a difference."

Michael Buckenmeyer, a junior in the five-year MBA program who grew up in Warren, points out the economic opportunities available in Detroit. "A lot of people moved elsewhere," he said, explaining how that leaves opportunities for young people looking to gain a foothold in both the city's burgeoning and established industries.

Before coming to UDM, Buckenmeyer said his time in Detroit was mainly spent in the downtown area at places

At University of Detroit Mercy, our students' futures are bright, with graduate school or employment awaiting them soon after graduation.

The secret to our success is the way our rigorous academics and practical application – through co-ops, clinicals and internship opportunities in Detroit and beyond – prepare our graduates for the real world. Our roots in the



like Comerica Park and Campus Martius, but as a student, he has been able to truly explore the city. "Going here has shown me that there's stuff happening all over."

For many students, becoming part of Detroit instills a sense of passion and pride in the past, present and future of a great American city.

"For a big city, it's definitely a home," said Colombo. "It has the most passionate people, who care about the city and want to see it survive. Spending time here, you start to care, too."

That's certainly true for Roche. "I have grown to love the city of Detroit and to feel connected to it," he said. "It's a strong part of my own identity, as well as an important part of my scholarship (documentary film production) and classroom pedagogy. This is a great place to study, to explore and to grow, both for students and faculty."

Jesuit and Mercy traditions help graduates see the bigger picture and consider the impact of their decisions on individuals and institutions, rather than just the bottom line.

How do we know our methods work? Our accomplished alumni exemplify the great outcomes a UDM education offers. Many alumni, including the three featured here, acknowledge the role their education had in their career achievements.

Ken Hemler '04, '07 learned much from participating in the Law Firm Program while at the School of Law. Then a pilot program and now part of the curriculum, the program is a simulated corporate environment structured to mimic the work assignments, feedback and professional skills development first-year lawyers would experience.

That served him well when he was a member of the mergers and acquisitions team at the New York City law

firm of Shearman & Sterling, where he was a summer associate prior to joining the firm as an attorney. Because he was also educated in business principles, he worked on a number of high-level projects, including the Bank of America acquisition of Merrill Lynch, an epic event during the financial crisis of 2008.

"I honestly believe that UDM Law is a big reason for the success that I've had in my career," he said "I learned very practical aspects of the law."

Hemler now is senior counsel in the Human Resources, Employment & Labor Law Group at The Dow Chemical Company. He works on employee-related issues that arise from mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and other corporate transactions and says he's grateful to have a challenging career.

While in the School of Architecture, Nicolle Taylor '01, '03 learned how to think strategically and creatively to make things work. Her internship at SmithGroupJJR, Inc., led to a position at the firm in January 2000. Seven years ago, she became a laboratory planner there, designing labs for universities and research companies.

"In the real world of architecture, you have to think about capital constraints, structure and the mechanical system when planning how things fit within that structure," Taylor said.

As a student, she spent a summer in Volterra, Italy, with the study-abroad program. While there, she toured other countries and was so impressed with the sights and learning experience that she convinced her sisters Lynda and Marlena to study abroad when they attended UDM's School of Law.

Taylor's long-lasting lessons are, "Be a hard worker

and never give up. When we did projects in Architecture School, professors were asked to critique them. From this, I learned how to improve, how to be strong and not to take things so personally."

Mechanical engineer Ramy Sulaiman '07, '08 noted, "What propelled my overall career path was the co-op program in Engineering. If I didn't have that understanding prior to graduation, I wouldn't have been able to hit the ground running. I had practical experience, not just theoretical."

A student-athlete in track and field, Sulaiman applauds the team spirit of his former fellow student-athletes and classmates. He contrasts that with the competitive nature of many colleges, where students can be unwilling to help each other.

At UDM, Sulaiman was taught to help others. For example, he said, "Learning about thermal heat transfer, we were able to help people in Detroit insulate their houses better. That experience led me to grow as a well-rounded individual."

The common-sense aspect of his education has been a core trait in his career. "In class, we were asked to do a reality check ... when reading a book, calculating or analyzing, the professor would ask us to think, 'Does this make sense in the real world?' "

He brought that big-picture perspective to his engineering jobs, first at General Motors and now at Denso, where he works in sales and marketing.

He notes that UDM required three courses in religion and ethics, which added great value to his life. He said, "People are so into advancing their career; we need more people who are going to do the right thing."

## GREAT [ Outcomes, Stats & Rankings

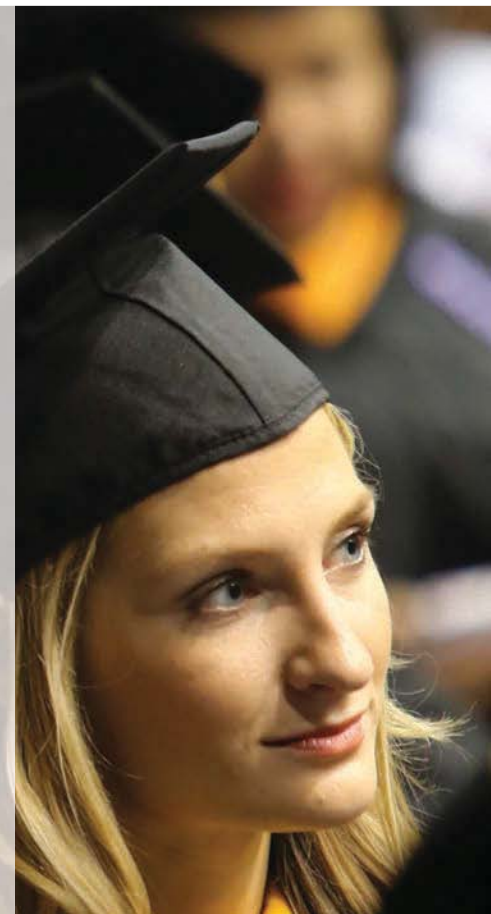
**88** Percentage of UDM graduates who have jobs or are continuing their education within six months of graduation

**98** Percentage (averaged over 5 years) of graduates who pass the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam the first time

**100** Percentage of 2014 graduating engineering class currently employed or in graduate school

## UDM ranks ...

- Among the top tier of Midwestern master's universities in the 2015 edition of *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Colleges."
- 14th in the 2015 College Choice Ranking of Regional Universities – Midwest, based on factors college freshmen say are important to their college decision.
- As one of the best colleges in the country by *Money* magazine, based on graduation rates, degree costs and return on investment.







# Summer fun for youth at UDM

Young people can explore academic areas in exciting programs offered this summer on University of Detroit Mercy's McNichols Campus.

Participants can choose from science, technology, engineering, math, architecture and more. These programs provide enrichment for young students and give them a taste of college life at UDM.

"Our summer programs immerse young people in hands-on programs that make science, technology, engineering and math – or STEM – learning fun, innovative, engaging, challenging and rewarding," said Pamela Rhodes Todd, director of Pre-College Programs for the College of Engineering & Science, which has run summer programs for many years.

The School of Dentistry also offers a program for college-age students interested in a dental career, but the application deadline has passed.

## **Architecture: For students completing grades 9-12, June 22-26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$400**

High school students learn concepts of architecture, design and engineering through hands-on projects, learning how to use the professional-level equipment in the university studio.

## **Michigan Council of Women in Technology's Camp Infinity: For girls ages 9-13, June 22-26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., approximately \$45**

This weeklong summer tech camp focuses on video game design, robotics and design techniques, presenting technology as a fun, fulfilling option for girls. Presentations from professionals from area companies by role models in the field are designed to encourage participants to continue learning about technology.

## **Digital Media: For students completing grades 9-12, June 22-26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$400**

High school students will be introduced to fundamental concepts of digital media including design, graphics and video, working in the university studio.

## **STEPS: For girls in grades 9-12, July 6-17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$450**

Science Technology Engineering Preview Summer Camp introduces high school girls to the world of engineering, science and robotics, giving them college-level activities, which include building and programming a robot.

## **TRANSIT Smart Moves: For students in grades 9-12, July 6-17, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$450**

High school students explore transportation and civil engineering through LEGO NXT Robotics. Labs and discussions led by university professors and high school science teachers are supplemented with presenters from Ford Motor Company, MDOT and more.

## **UNITE/SAT College Bound PREP: For students in grades 9-11, July 6-24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$600**

Students experience a university freshmen engineering curriculum, with lots of hands-on activities emphasizing teamwork.

## **Ford-UDM/Georgia Tech Innovation: For students in grades 9-12, July 14-24, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., \$450**

Participants will use the latest design and collaborative software tools to design, test and manufacture complex systems. This unique program is for students with an interest in pursuing engineering or related fields.

*For program and registration information, please visit [udmercy.edu/summer](http://udmercy.edu/summer).*



# Ready, Set, Hike!

## Remembering Titan Football

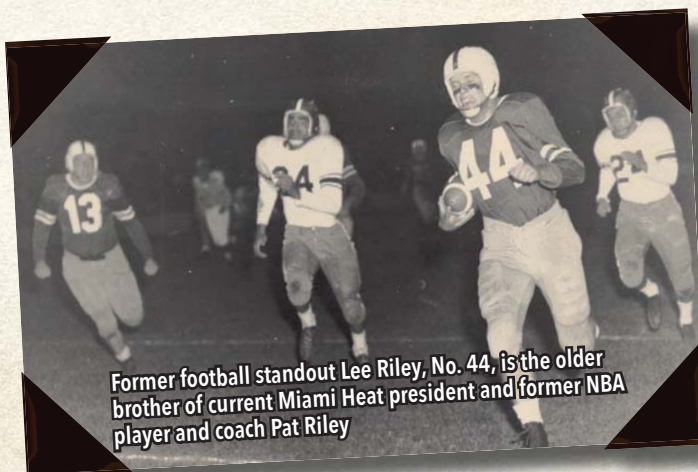
By P.J. Gradowski, Senior Assistant Sports Information Director

The University of Detroit Mercy Department of Athletics celebrated its gridiron days in November 2014 with a special 50-year reunion for all former Titan football players.

Twenty-three former student-athletes came back for the celebration, which included a pre-game reception attended by UDM President Antoine M. Garibaldi and Director of Athletics Robert C. Vowels, Jr. The special guests were honored at halftime of the men's basketball game against South Alabama.

"The camaraderie was still there after all of these years," said Dave Vitali '66. "I was extremely honored by the fact that UDM took the time and effort to have this reunion for the former players."

Titans football history spans 64 seasons from 1896-1964, with five years during that time it did not field a team. At its height, the Titans were one of the best teams in the Midwest even winning one national championship. The undefeated squad of 1928 (9-0) was crowned champion by Parke Davis, a historian who retroactively named national championship teams in college football from 1869 through 1932; the ranking is recognized in the NCAA record book.



Former football standout Lee Riley, No. 44, is the older brother of current Miami Heat president and former NBA player and coach Pat Riley



University of Detroit Stadium

More than 30 Titans are believed to have moved on to the professional ranks, including greats like Grady Alderman '61, Vince Banonis '42, Andy Farkas '51 and Ted Marchibroda '53.

Alderman played 15 seasons in the NFL and was named one of the 50 greatest Minnesota Vikings, helping the

squad to three Super Bowls. Banonis played eight years with the Chicago Cardinals and was First-Team All-NFL player three times, winning three NFL titles. Farkas was named one of the 70 greatest Redskins in team history leading Washington to an NFL championship in 1942, and Marchibroda ended up topping the nation in total offense in 1952 before embarking on a long coaching career in the NFL.

The Titans also hold a special place in history with the NFL and all of those who plan their Thanksgiving dinner around what game is on TV. The first-ever NFL Thanksgiving Day game took place on campus at the University of Detroit Stadium in 1934, as the 10-1 Detroit Lions hosted the defending world champion and 11-0 Chicago Bears in front of a sold-out crowd of 26,000 fans.

The Titans ended their football program in 1964, citing budgetary reasons and a decline in attendance. Detroit was 305-203-25 in its varsity history and even though it has been 50 years since the last Titan touchdown, no one will forget the memories of college football in the Motor City.

*For an expanded version of this story, visit [community.udmercy.edu](http://community.udmercy.edu).*



University of Detroit Mercy welcomed 23 former Titan football players to a special 50-year reunion in November 2014.



# Alumni Class Notes

## 1960s

**Gilmary Bauer, RSM '69** was elected to the Carlow University Board of Trustees. She also serves as an adjunct professor in the University of Detroit Mercy College of Liberal Arts & Education.

**Lawrence G. Campbell '69**, an attorney at Dickinson Wright PLLC, was appointed vice chair of the Michigan Attorney Discipline Board by the Michigan Supreme Court.

**Michael E. Cavanaugh '66**, an attorney at Fraser Trebilcock, was selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2015*. He was also selected as a 2014 Super Lawyer.

**Hon. Michael F. Cavanagh '62, '66** has retired after 32 years as a Michigan Supreme Court Justice. He was also honored for his exemplary service on the bench at the Michigan Irish American Chamber of Commerce second annual gala on Nov. 13, 2014.

**Rev. Nedeljko Lunich '67** has retired after serving 50 years as a Serbian Orthodox priest. He spent the past 40 years at St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Joliet, Ill.

**William C. Young '64**, president and chief executive officer, Absopure Water, and a member of the UDM Board of Trustees, was elected to serve as a member of Scholarship America's Board of Trustees.

## 1970s

**David Braun '76, '80** was named executive vice president at the Detroit office of Jobplex.

**Mario V. '70 and Patricia (Doane) '76 Contini** were named by California Sen. Fran Pavley as Volunteers of the Month in October 2014. The award recognized the couple for their dedication, leadership, organizational and fundraising skills, service work and devotion to public service, inspiring dedication to the well-being of others and exemplary models of "Service Above Self."

**Maura Corrigan '73** has retired as director of the Michigan Department of Human Services.

**Tim Currier '78**, a shareholder at Beier Howlett, was named 2015 "Lawyer of the Year" by *Best Lawyers*.

**Timothy Gargaro '76** joined Gill Holding as chief financial officer.

**Alan M. Gershel '78** was named grievance administrator for the Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission, which is the investigative and prosecutorial arm of the Supreme Court for allegations of attorney misconduct.

**Gary R. Habermas '73** recently published the book, *The Historical Jesus: Ancient Evidence for the Life of Christ*. Habermas is a distinguished research professor and chair of the Department of Philosophy at Liberty University and also teaches in the Ph.D. program in theology and apologetics at Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Robert Hamilton '72**, co-founder and former CEO of Gewalt Hamilton Associates Inc., has retired after a successful 40-year career as a civil engineer.

**Elizabeth Kocab '74, '80** won the world championship in Women's Epee (60-69 category) at the World Veterans Fencing Championships, held in Debrecen, Hungary. This was her third world title in the event.

**Donna Markham, O.P. '74** was named president of Catholic Charities USA. She is the first woman to head the organization.

**Chuck Moss '79** was appointed by Oakland County, Mich., Executive L. Brooks Patterson to the Regional Transit Authority Governing Board.

**Thomas E. Page '71, '76** organized and led a bike ride throughout the city of Detroit (including the UDM McNichols Campus) as a fundraiser for the nonprofit Neighborhood Service Organization, which helps people in need.

**Robert C. Plewa '79** was named SmartZone director for Midland Tomorrow.

**Jonathan Poer '77** was elected Lenawee County district judge.

**Karen (Johnson) Preston '77**, an assistant professor at Samuel Merritt College in Oakland and Sacramento, Calif., was awarded The Foundation for Life Care Planning Research Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her dedication and countless contributions to the field of life care planning.

**Leola Rodgers '78** was named president and chief executive officer at the Syracuse Community Health Center.

**Hon. Michael J. Talbot '71** was appointed chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals. He was also appointed chair of the Madonna University Board of Trustees.



Lawrence G. Campbell '69



Michael E. Cavanaugh '66



Mario V. Contini '70



Patricia Contini '76



Donna Markham, O.P. '74



Genelle Allen '85

**James H. Timberlake '74**, partner at KieranTimberlake Associates, created the new design for the U.S. Embassy in London, set to open in 2017.

## 1980s

**Genelle Allen '85** was named assistant county executive by Wayne County, Mich., Executive Warren Evans '87.



Timothy F. Kosinski, D.D.S. '84

**Gail (Stern) Alpert '81**, president of FIRST in Michigan, was elected to the executive advisory board for FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology).

**Scott Anderson '87** was appointed to the Transportation Commission for the City of Alexandria, Va.



John B. O'Reilly, Jr. '80

**Paul Ballew '88, '91** was named global chief data and analytics officer at Ford Motor Co.

**David G. Barnes '84** recently published the book *Blood, Sweat & Gears. The Story of the Gray Ghost and the Junkyard Firebird*, based on the true story of a group of independent engineers at GM's Pontiac Division who designed and built a race car from a 1964 sedan and competed with it in the 1971 professional Trans-Am circuit. In 1972, they did it again with a wrecked Firebird and shocked the racing world.



Gary Peters '84

**George Contis '85** joined the law firm of Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton in Troy, Mich. He concentrates his practice in real estate acquisition and development, construction, mortgage and end-loan lending, participation loans, commercial and industrial leasing for landlords and tenants and business planning.

**Kirk Diegel '82** was promoted to vice president of Field Asset Protection at Follett Higher Education Group.



Claudia Rast '86

**Warren Evans '87** was elected to serve as Wayne County executive. Evans is a former Detroit police chief and Wayne County sheriff.

**Tunishai A. Ford '81** has published two inspirational books: *I Miss the Hugs but Not the Hurts* and *This is a Comma in Your Life, Not a Period*.

**John A. Forrest '81** was elected a shareholder at Butzel Long.

**René M.L. Hansemann '88**, an attorney at Pepper Hamilton LLP, was named to the 2015 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

**Mark S. Kopson '81, '85**, who serves as Plunkett Cooney's health care industry group leader and a shareholder in the firm's Bloomfield Hills, Mich., office, was elected the 2014-15 chair-elect of the State Bar of Michigan's Health Care Law Section.

**Timothy F. Kosinski, D.D.S. '84** was featured on the cover of the summer 2014 edition of the national dental journal *Inclusive*. Kosinski, a leading dental implant dentist in the United States, is also an adjunct clinical professor at the UDM School of Dentistry.

**Timothy Kroninger '85** joined Varnum in the law firm's metro Detroit office.

**Robert Lollini '85**, chief financial officer at BioFire Diagnostics, was appointed to Recursion Pharmaceuticals' business advisory panel.

**Paul D. Nowicki '85**, senior vice president of Gannett Fleming, was named director of the firm's southeast region. In addition to the new role, he will remain a member of Gannett Fleming's board of directors and will continue to oversee the company's operations in the

northeastern United States.

**John B. O'Reilly, Jr. '80**, mayor of Dearborn, Mich., was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Local Community Stabilization Authority Council.

**Gary Peters '84** was elected to the U.S. Senate representing Michigan.

**Lawrence Pierce '81** was named executive vice president of merchandising and marketing at SpartanNash.

**Jude Rariden '89** was named assistant professor in criminal justice at Lake Superior State University.

**Claudia Rast '86**, an attorney and shareholder at Butzel Long, was named to *Michigan Lawyers Weekly's* "Leaders in the Law" Class of 2015.

**Steven M. Raymond '80** was elected a shareholder at Butzel Long.

**Hon. James R. Redford '85** was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder as the governor's chief legal counsel.

**Nancy Susick '86**, president of Beaumont Hospital, Troy, Mich., was named one of 130 Women Hospital and Health System Leaders to Know by *Becker's Hospital Review*. Susick is also a member of the University of Detroit Mercy Board of Trustees.

**Stephen Waldron '88** was named chief operating officer at Grantham University.

**Robert F. Wardrop '80**, owner and senior shareholder of Wardrop & Wardrop P.C., was reappointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Central Michigan University Board of Trustees.







## Nancy Beckman '75

### Nurse anesthetist creates thriving niche business for sedation services

by Liz Cezat, contributing writer

An extraordinary career has taken Nancy Beckman '75 from hospital nurse to the forefront of new horizons in patient care.

In high school, Beckman excelled in math and science. Her counselor suggested she might become a nurse and showed her a pamphlet from then Mercy College of Detroit. "It was a godsend of a decision," she said.

After earning a nursing degree, she pursued a master's degree at Wayne State University to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) in 1987. She began her career at the Detroit Medical Center, where she taught nursing and worked in surgical units. While at the Hutzel Hospital Renal Unit, she wrote "Handbook for RNs Working with End Stage Renal Disease." Since then, she has been published in several journals and books.

She worked at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center for 11 years where she learned pain management. She left Oakwood when asked by a medical doctor to establish and maintain an anesthesia department for office-based cosmetic surgery.

Following this opportunity, she held other positions in Michigan and Florida for several years. While in Florida, she became licensed as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner, which gave her a greater range of practice.

She credits her late mother with her determination. "If I asked my Mom for help with my homework and she was busy making dinner or taking care of my sisters, she would say, 'Figure it out yourself.'" Beckman has been figuring it out ever since.

In the early 1990s, Beckman was asked by a well-known dentist in Oakland County to provide sedation to adult patients for his surgical implant cases. She agreed. As word of her services spread, she opened a solo practice in 1991 to address the growing need for dental sedation. Four years later, she incorporated her business as Precept Anesthesia Services and later expanded services to include contract hiring of other CRNAs. At that time, more patients began asking their dentists for sedation to ease their fear of dental procedures, to address pain, or due to special needs including disabilities.

She said she absolutely loves the special needs component of her practice. "I've seen my young patients grow into adults, and many have had my services for almost 20 years."

Currently, Beckman manages a team of five CRNAs through her company, renamed d.b.a. Sedation Dentistry, as she continues to perform anesthesia.

Beckman has gone on several missionary trips, traveling to East Africa, the Soviet Union, France and twice to the Philippines, to perform sedation for adults and children undergoing surgery. She also has instructed medical residents how to provide anesthesia via inhalation, catheters, injections and intravenous lines.

She has been active on committees within the Michigan and National Associations of Nurse Anesthetists. She currently serves on the Health Professionals Recovery Program committee in Lansing to help CRNAs who have an addiction.

Of her robust schedule, she noted, "Mercy College prepared their nurses to be leaders, not just to 'go to work.'"

She maintains ties to UDM by attending the annual Nurse Anesthesia Senior Seminar, and current UDM Health Services Administration student Marlena Pizzo works in Beckman's office as an intern.

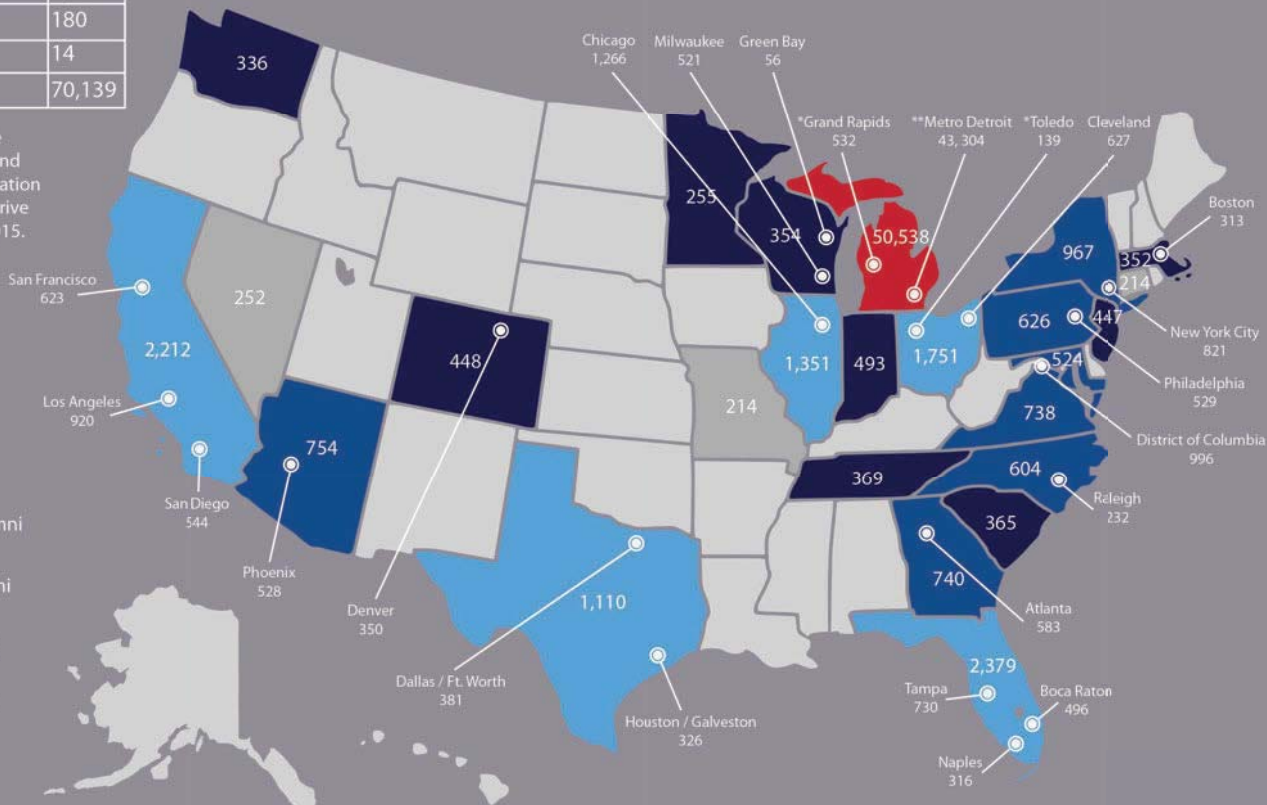
Beckman's advice to students and new graduates is, "Follow opportunities. When you see a problem in the workplace, put yourself in there as a leader to solve the problem. Don't recreate the wheel when looking for solutions."

Beckman lives in Dearborn with her husband Roger, also a CRNA. She has three grown daughters, Liza, Renee and Grace, and seven grandchildren.



## Alumni Population by State

Canada	1,247
Province of Ontario	1,118
Toronto	180
Mexico	14
U.S.	70,139



**Hon. James R. Redford '85**



**Michelle L. Alamo '99**

## 1990s

**Michelle L. Alamo '99**, an attorney at Dickinson Wright PLLC, was appointed vice chair of the Defense Research Institute's Intellectual Property Committee.

**Lawrence G. Almeda '97**, a shareholder at Brinks Gilson & Lione, was named a Leading Lawyer in intellectual property in Michigan for 2014-15.

**Samy Bin Ahmed Al Ghassany '98** was appointed chairman of the Oman Fibre Optic board.

**Cornell Batie '92, '00** was promoted to executive vice

president and chief operating officer of the Detroit Jazz Festival.

**Hon. Paul Bridenstine '91**  
was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Kalamazoo County circuit court bench.

**Beth I. deBaptiste '96** was elected a shareholder at Butzel Long.

**Michael J. Distel '90** was appointed judge in the 61st District Court in Grand Rapids, Mich., by Gov. Rick Snyder.

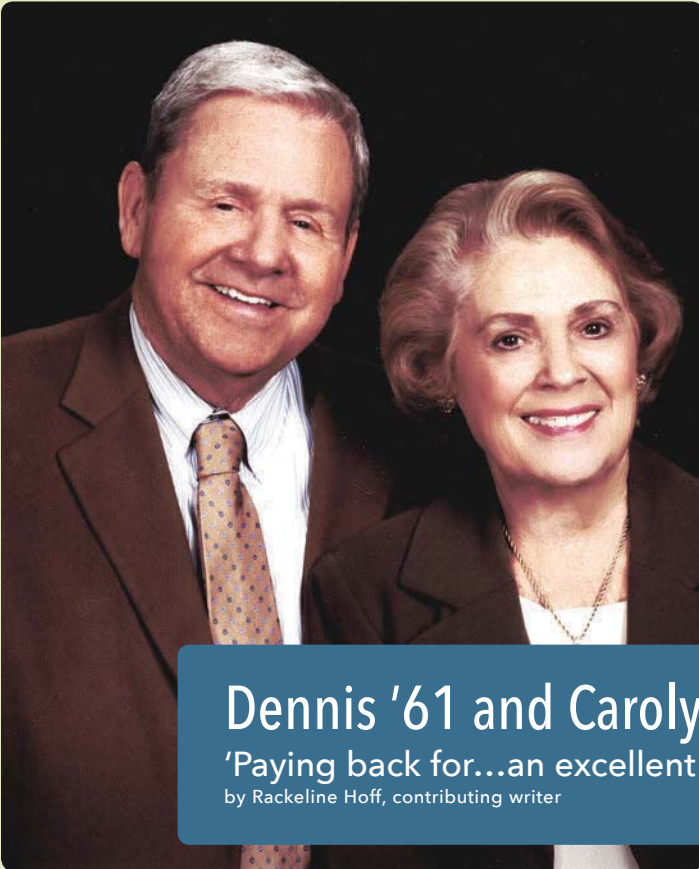
**Mark Ellis '90** was named senior vice president of corporate sales at Time Inc.

**Michael J. Forest '90**, chair and associate professor of philosophy at Canisius College, received a grant from the J. William Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, to teach at Beijing Foreign Studies University in Beijing, China.

**Michelle (Caty) Harrell '90**, a shareholder at Maddin, Hauser, Roth & Heller PC, was appointed to the board of directors of Living Arts.

**Edward Hartfield '94** was reappointed by President Barack Obama as a member of the Federal Service Impasses Panel, Federal Labor Relations Authority.





## Dennis '61 and Carolyn '61 Flynn

'Paying back for...an excellent education'

by Rackeline Hoff, contributing writer

Since meeting as students, Carolyn '61 and Dennis '61 Flynn have shared a wonderful life together and a mutual commitment to family and community service. They are the proud parents of eight children – all college graduates – and 26 grandchildren. Dennis has also distinguished himself as an astute businessman, successful fundraiser and enthusiastic University of Detroit Mercy supporter.

Raised in Chevy Chase, Md., Dennis attended University of Detroit on a football scholarship, playing right end for the Titans from 1956-59. Carolyn, a native Detroiter was studying nursing at Mercy College of Detroit when they met. In 1961, Dennis earned his bachelor's degree in economics and finance, while Carolyn graduated with a B.S.N. from Mercy College with high honors.

"I always felt that because U of D gave me a scholarship, my support and fundraising efforts for the University were my way of paying back for a wonderful opportunity and an excellent education," Dennis said.

Dennis began his career in the insurance and executive benefits industry as an agent for Mass Mutual Life Insurance Co. while he was a student at University of Detroit. He remained a general agent with the company for 26 years, until 1985, when he founded Flynn and Co., now Flynn Benefits Group, and became an independent agent. With a focus

on providing disability, health and life insurance to doctors, the firm handles large corporate and pension accounts.

Although Dennis goes into his Troy office regularly, he considers himself semi-retired, and the business is now operated by his sons Michael, Patrick and Jimmy.

With fond memories of his athletic experience at University of Detroit, Dennis chaired a highly successful football reunion weekend in 2001, which was attended by more than 200 former athletes. He also participated in the 50-year football reunion held last fall at Calihan Hall. Among his most significant memories was serving on the U of D Athletic Board in 1977 when Dick Vitale was hired as the men's basketball coach.

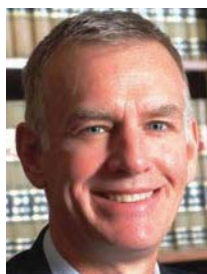
Recognized for his generosity and community service, Dennis has received numerous awards including the UDM Athletic Department's prestigious John Conti Letterman of Distinction Award and the first Father Norbert Huetter, S.J., Award for leadership and service to others. In addition, *The Detroit News* named Dennis one its top five fundraisers for his efforts on behalf of the Cass Corridor Clinic, Lighthouse of Oakland County, March of Dimes, Marian High School, Pheasant Ring for the Autistic and UDM.

Through the years, while the Flynns were raising their family, Carolyn was also actively involved in the community. She served in leadership positions at Marian, Brother Rice and Loyola high schools and with the Women's Committee for Hospice Care. In October 2014, the Flynns received the Magna Award for Distinguished Service from Loyola High School.

In looking back over his 58-year relationship with the University, Dennis remembers the close connection he had with University of Detroit President Malcolm Carron, S.J., who served as his prefect during freshman year. He is most appreciative of the Tower Award he received from Fr. Carron in 1976. Dennis continued to support Fr. Carron's efforts after he left the University to become president of University of Detroit Jesuit High School and assisted him in raising the funds to establish Loyola High School.

The Flynns, who live in Lake Angelus, Mich., especially enjoy spending time with their family and proudly exclaimed, "We had 48 people gathered for a festive Christmas dinner!" Their favorite pastimes include reading and attending Titan basketball games.

When asked his key to successful fundraising, Dennis enthusiastically replied, "Believe in your cause and connect with people who share that belief."



Michael J. Distel '90



Michael J. Forest '90



Demi Kazanis, D.D.S. '99



Robin King '94



William L. Long '90

**Joseph Helfrich '99** was named executive vice president and general manager of Brock Grain Systems.

**Amy (Chauvin) Johnston '94**, a principal and deputy leader of Miller Canfield's litigation and dispute resolution group, was named one of *Michigan Lawyers Weekly's* "Women in the Law" for 2014.

**Demi Kazanis, D.D.S. '99** was cast in the role of Lex Luthor's girlfriend in "Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice," a new film shot in Detroit and the surrounding area.

**Robin King '94** joined HealthCare Partners Oncology/Hematology Group and works in the San Martin Oncology clinic in Las Vegas, Nev.

**Lawrence Leib '93** was appointed vice president, senior advisor at Schechter Wealth.

**William L. Long '90** was recently featured in the *Knoxville News Sentinel* in an article about his life as a young, black professional golfer in the south in the 1960s, and his attempt to be the University of Tennessee golf team's first black player. Long is currently the president of Long Insurance Services, L.L.C.

**Kimberly A. Lowe '93**, a shareholder at Fredrikson & Byron, was appointed Business Law Section Liaison to the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service.

**Matthew J. Lund '93**, an attorney at Pepper Hamilton LLP, was named to the 2015 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

**David Menczer '98**, a ninth-grade teacher specializing in algebra at Martin Luther King Jr. High School in Detroit, was honored with the Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery.

**David Nelson '92, '96** was named vice president for finance and administration at Alma College.

**Hoa Nguyen '91** was named executive vice president for finance and administration at Mercyhurst University.

**Leo Salvaggio '99, '06** was named executive vice president at Dynamic Solutions International, LLC.

**Stanley Szczotka '95** was named executive director of student and legal affairs at Wayne-Westland Community Schools, Mich.

## 2000s

**Nicole (Brown) Baker '06** joined Miller Canfield as senior attorney in the Troy office in the corporate group.

**Jennifer (Laurain) Dillow '02, '06**, an attorney at Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., LPA, was selected to the 2014 Michigan Rising Stars list.

**Andrew Dunlap '02, '04**, an architect at SmithGroup JJR, was awarded the 2015 Young Architects Award by the American Institute of Architects.

**Danielle Graceffa '03** recently joined Dykema in the real estate practice group.

**Ziyad I. Hermiz '08** was elected a shareholder at Butzel Long, where he concentrates his practice in business litigation.

**Steven Jacobs '05**, a litigation attorney at Trott & Trott, was recognized as a "2014 Michigan Rising Star" by *Super Lawyers* magazine.

**Tim Korson '01** joined Springfield, Inc., a roofing company in Traverse City, Mich., as an engineer in the company's fall protection division.

**Mathew A. Kuttolamadom '05** was appointed as the Corrie and Jim Furber Faculty Fellow in Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution at Texas A&M University.

**Ronald C. Liscombe '03** joined Miller Canfield as a senior attorney in the firm's Detroit headquarters.

**Bradley Shepler '00** was promoted to an associate at Hubbell, Roth & Clark Inc., where he will provide a wide array of civil engineering services to municipal clients and governmental agencies.

**Joseph D. Slaven '00** was elected to the bench at the 23rd District Court of the State of Michigan in Taylor, Mich. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

**Renee Snow '08** recently joined the midwife staff at Women's Excellence, located in Lake Orion, Birmingham and Clarkston, Mich.

**Laura (Stoppa) Soave '00** was appointed senior vice president, chief marketing and communications officer at Federal-Mogul Motorparts.

**Christina (Haineault) Worgess '05, '14** joined Bronson Critical Care & Pulmonary Medicine Specialists, Battle Creek, Mich.



## 2010s

**Briana E. Emerson '11** joined the Ann Arbor office of Brinks Gilson & Lione as an associate attorney.

**Elizabeth Grabowski '14**, UDM's 2014 Valedictorian, was selected as one of the 33 Fellows to participate in Challenge Detroit, an urban revitalization program focused on attracting and retaining talent in Detroit in an effort to spur revitalization.

**U. Renee Hall '14** was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Elevator Safety Board.

**Nick Hawatmeh '11** was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Michigan Board of Chiropractic.

**Alexis Konja '14** is serving at the International Services Center of Cleveland, Ohio, as a volunteer with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

**Steven J. Kustra '11, '14** joined Clark Hill PLC as a litigation associate in the firm's Detroit office.

**Eric Kushion, D.D.S. '14** joined the staff at Today's Smile Dentistry in Crystal Falls, Mich.

**Rebecca (Manning) Mancini '12** joined Miller Canfield as an associate in the Ann Arbor office in the immigration practice.

**Frank Paolini '12**, an attorney with Plunkett Cooney in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., was named an "Up & Coming

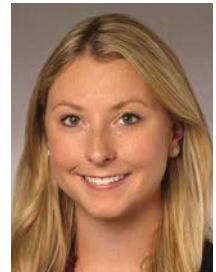
Lawyer" by *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*.

**Ann Raftery '12**, director of the SweetDreamzzz Sleep Education Program, was awarded (along with her colleagues at SweetDreamzzz) Thorton & Grooms' November Hearts and Heroes Award, along with a \$1,000 donation to the program.

**Alexander Tolksdorf '10, '13, '14** published the article, "Toward a Pragmatic Truth of Accounting," in the October 2014 issue of *Dialogue*, the journal of Phi Sigma Tau, the International Honor Society for Philosophy.



Ziyad I. Hermiz '08



Briana E. Emerson '11



Alexis Konja '14

### CLASS NOTES & IN MEMORIAM SUBMISSIONS

Let us know of your recent promotions, activities and honors, and help keep your record current when you move, start a new job or change your name. Send your name, class year, degree, address, the details of your class note, and if possible, a high-resolution color photo of yourself to: Alumni Relations, University of Detroit Mercy, 4001 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, MI 48221-3038 or email

UDMGRAD@udmercy.edu. Class notes are also posted and updated regularly at [community.udmercy.edu](http://community.udmercy.edu). Every effort is made to provide timely Alumni Class Notes and In Memoriam information. However, because there is often a time gap from when information is submitted to Alumni Relations and when *Spiritus* is printed, this information may not be as up to date. Please visit **community.udmercy.edu** for the most current information.

## ALUMNI EVENTS

### UDM Alumni and Friends Day of Service

The UDM Alumni Association Board, in collaboration with the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU), is organizing a day of service on Saturday, April 25, from 8:15 a.m.-noon. UDM, along with many other Jesuit institutions across the country, are organizing service activities for alumni. UDM alumni and friends are invited to participate in a McNichols Campus neighborhood cleanup on April 25. Volunteers will help clean two sites around the McNichols Campus: Gesu Park and neighborhood blocks west of campus. Breakfast and T-shirts will be provided to all participants. For more information and to register, visit [community.udmercy.edu](http://community.udmercy.edu).

### Class of 1965 celebrates Golden Jubilee

The Class of 1965 (McNichols Campus) will celebrate its Golden Jubilee on Saturday, May 9, beginning with a reception at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the President's Dining Room, Student Center on the McNichols Campus.

Cost per person is \$30. To RSVP, visit [community.udmercy.edu/reunion1965](http://community.udmercy.edu/reunion1965).



**Homecoming Tailgate 2015**

See more photos at [community.udmercy.edu/photos](http://community.udmercy.edu/photos)

# In Memoriam

## 1940s

Michael A. Attan '48  
Robert C. Brady '49  
James M. Crouner '48  
Patricia (Gavigan) DeWalt '47  
John A. Hamilton, D.D.S. '46  
Ellen (Keller) Hayes '49  
Emrik L. Kallman '40  
James P. Kitson, Jr. '49  
Stephen J. Linsenmeyer '48  
Robert A. Loepp '49  
Virginia (Schneider)  
O'Donnell '49  
Peter T. Petroff '47  
George J. Reichenbach '48  
Evelyn (Crigger) Riley '49  
Margaret (Schmoke) Rivard '46  
Marie (Begue) Robertson '49, '72  
Joseph Saracino, Jr. '47  
Carl H. Schmidt, Jr. '42  
Arthur F. Stolkey '46

## 1950s

John F. Abeli '50  
Suheil M. Ajluni '56  
Maynard L. Anderson '52  
Charles H. Babcock '56  
Nancy (Tapert) Barrett '50  
Douglas I. Bayne, D.D.S. '56  
James E. Beall '52  
Shirley A. Beaupre '54  
Edwin R. Bindseil '53  
John H. Boitos '55  
William D. Bonds '59  
Dwayne M. Brown, D.D.S. '57  
Frank D. Buchanan '55  
Margaret (Gordon) Callahan '52  
Robert D. Campenni '57  
Mary Lou (Filiatrault) Clair '57  
William L. Cleary '52  
John H. Cookson, Jr. '58  
Marian (Mack) Coyle '52  
George H. Cross '51  
Michael J. Donahue, D.D.S. '54  
Robert J. Dutcher '52  
Marilyn (Eckhoff) Elder '51  
Joan (Wiebelhaus) Faber '55, '62  
Alice (Stahl) Femminio '56  
Dolores (Boutette) Finley '51  
Frank L. Gallucci '51, '53  
Haig D. Garabedian, D.D.S. '50  
Henry R. Gilbert '54  
Joseph P. Granata '58  
George H. Hauke '59  
Clyde R. Hopkins '52  
Russell J. Horn '58  
Katherine (Sady) Huddleston '53  
John P. Jackson '56  
Thomas R. Jordan '59

Melanie (Gajewski) Kaplan '55  
Hon. Edward J. Kehoe, Jr. '58  
John Klot '51  
J. Donald Kluck '56  
John G. Kopacz '52  
Lubomyr M. Kowal '57  
Anthony P. Lawrence '51  
Brian J. Loftus, Sr. '51  
Ray C. Maison '53  
Ira B. Marder, D.D.S. '53  
Thomas J. Mason '59, '63  
Samuel A. Mazzola '58  
James L. McCarthy '53  
Susan (LaFramboise)  
Mitchell '54, '60  
Phyllis (Weeks) Murch '58  
Norman E. Murphy '59  
Michael T. Murray '52  
Kazimierz J. Olejarczyk '57  
Shirley (Purcell) Parmentier '55  
Joseph S. Pensavecchia, M.D. '53  
Thomas J. Petz '51  
Jerome J. Remick '59  
Roland O. Rheume '51  
William W. Ruwart '52  
George E. Sanctorum '52  
Marilyn (Meister) Schaub '52  
Harry P. Schoeneberger '52  
Robert P. Suchyta '56, '61  
Fred Tinsey, Jr., D.D.S. '55  
Nicholas Toruk '51  
Thomas R. Tramski '58  
Daniel Vlachos '56  
Dolores (Gonczo) Walsh '55  
Edward S. Watko, Jr., D.D.S. '52  
Celeste (McNally) Welhaf '59  
Richard W. Wilson '53, '57  
Eugene F. Zeimet '51

## 1960s

Gregory T. Arsulowicz '65  
John M. Atkins '68  
Vincent J. Brozoski '63  
Norma (Petix) Burgess '62  
William G. Carlson '61  
Donald Cote '65  
Beuline (Alexander) Crawford '65  
Earl W. Duignan '65  
William F. Dwyer '61  
Frank H. Finney '66  
Marilyn (Thomas Howard)  
Foster, O.P. '63  
Joseph D. Fowler '63  
Richard T. Gallagher '66  
Lois A. Gilbert '64  
Anthony P. Gythiel '66, '71  
Chancey O. Jones '66  
Robert P. Keil '60  
Charles A. Kelly '62

Mary Helen (Carbert) Kelly '64  
William L. Krantz '66, '68  
Louis Lenhard '62  
Virginia (Ghequire) Lutz '64  
Edward J. Lyons '66  
Sharon (Persia) McDonald '63  
Henry P. McHale '62  
Timothy R. Merlihan '60  
Donald Michalak '61  
Rev. James R. Miller '60  
Mary (Brautigan) Mutart '61  
Rev. John C. Parker '63  
Sara Ann Parker '64  
Robert W. Potocki '60  
Roger L. Ptak '60  
Rev. Gerald J. Sommer '66  
Vincent V. Spica, III '60  
Richard J. Thompson '69  
Kathleen (Rafferty) True '65  
Judith (Birnbryer) Willis '62  
Hon. Lawrence P. Zatkoff '62

## 1970s

Anthony G. Arnone '74  
Timothy A. Bednar '77  
Frederick Benson '79  
William R. Blanchard '76  
James P. Byrne '72  
Robert J. Byrnes, III '76  
Frank M. Colagiovanni '73  
Edward J. Duffy '74  
Harold M. Duquesnel '76  
Ralph D. Gilpin '75  
Ronald M. Hutchinson '75  
Roosevelt Johnson '75  
Edward J. Karas '74  
Thomas J. Kelley '75  
Gerald F. Kenney, Jr. '75, '77  
John P. Kuzma '79  
Sr. Emily Lechlak '70  
Robert B. Martin '74  
Simeon R. Orłowski '76  
Sylvio I. Raymond, Jr. '74  
Hon. Roy L. Roulhac '75  
William A. Seawahl '77  
Marvin D. Sharon '73  
Thomas J. Shirey '72  
Thomas C. Shumaker '72  
Carlton T. Stanton '74  
Mark J. Stella '78  
Raymond J. Stoesser '75  
Louis A. Trama '73  
Thomas M. Tysse, D.D.S. '70  
Grace Zakrzewski '74, '79  
Ted A. Zaroff, Jr. '78, '81

## 1980s

Juanita (McMahon) Agius '81  
Sharon (Turza) Alsip '87

Doris (Bowler) Belli '89  
Rita M. Burke '88  
John C. Carlisle '81  
Geraldine (Mason) Corry '87, '88  
Frederick M. Finn '80  
Joseph C. Haman '86  
Laurie (Grout) Karle '85  
Martha (Wenz) Miller '84  
Diane L. Pierce '86  
Jill (Foist) Swart '87  
Iain K. Todd '86  
Mary (Fisher) Wernette '81

## 1990s

Thomas D. Brandt '90  
James J. Flees '98  
Judith (Watkins) Ford '90  
Ethel A. Lewis '90  
Gretchen (Wolff) Schupp '93  
Ralph H. Tischler '94

## Faculty and Friends

**Thomas A. Emmet, Jr. '52, '54**

former Dean of Men at  
University of Detroit, died  
Nov. 5, 2014.\*

**Ruth Z. Finan**, retired professor  
of Dietetics at Mercy College  
of Detroit, died on Oct. 22,  
2014.

**Clinton S. Hirst**, retired professor  
of English at University of  
Detroit Mercy, passed away on  
Nov. 13, 2014.

**James A. Kent**, former dean  
of the University of Detroit  
College of Engineering &  
Science, died on Jan. 6, 2015.

**Philip S. Jones**, former member  
of the UDM Board of Trustees,  
entered eternal life on Nov. 11,  
2014.

**Eugene Klingler**, former faculty  
member in the College of  
Engineering & Science at  
University of Detroit, passed  
away on Jan. 4, 2015.

**E. Juliana Thomson**, retired  
professor of History at Mercy  
College of Detroit and retired  
adjunct professor of History  
at University of Detroit Mercy,  
entered eternal life on Jan. 6,  
2015.\*

**Michael J. Witkowski**, associate  
professor of Criminal Justice,  
died on Jan. 1, 2015.\*

\*Visit [community.udmercy.edu/memoriam](http://community.udmercy.edu/memoriam) for a full obituary.



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